



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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29 April 1991

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ECOWAS' Abbas Bundu on Liberian Conflict

AB2804105591 Abidjan *FRATERNITE MATIN*
in French 25 Apr 91 pp 28-29

[Interview with Abbas Bundu, Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, executive secretary, by *FRATERNITE MATIN* reporter Noel Yao in Abidjan; date not given]

[Text] [Yao] Mr. Executive Secretary, ECOWAS was involved up to its neck in attempts to resolve the Liberian conflict. How do you see the latest developments in this crisis?

[Bundu] To grasp what is happening today, one has to recall the elements of the peace plan. The peace plan called for an immediate cease-fire. A peace-keeping force, ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], was assigned the task of ensuring compliance with this cease-fire. Next, an interim government was to be formed to run the country for a short period leading to general elections. In keeping with the extraordinary summit of ECOWAS heads of state held in Bamako in November last year, and the Lome summit which followed it, an all-Liberian national conference opened on 15 March. They discussed the modalities for setting up a broad-based interim government as was decided by the ECOWAS heads of state and government.

The conference has yet to end its deliberations. Some proposals have been made.

[Yao] Charles Taylor has been aloof from this national conference. The situation, therefore, remains tricky...

[Bundu] That is correct! Not only did he not turn up, but also his delegation, which was present at the beginning, asked to pull out of the conference for a week's consultations and has since not returned.

Today, the conflict has taken another dimension: a clear act of aggression against Sierra Leone by elements mostly belonging to the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL], Charles Taylor's faction. It is a disturbing situation.

[Yao] Charles Taylor and his men deny any involvement in these incursions into Sierra Leone...

[Bundu] I have just come from Freetown, and all the evidence gathered shows that these attacks are the work of the NPFL. It is not a question of confirming or denying. One must go by the available eyewitness accounts and evidence, which implicate the NPFL in the incursions.

[Yao] As ECOWAS executive secretary, do you fear a kind of internationalization of the conflict in the subregion?

[Bundu] That is what the heads of state have been dreading since the conflict began. That is why they set up a mediating committee to reconcile the various parties. There was a risk that the entire subregion would become gangrened, if not set ablaze, by this Liberian conflict.

[Yao] Is the destabilization the result of opposing stands between the francophone group and the anglophone group, as was thought?

[Bundu] No. We should not see things in terms of conflicts between francophones and anglophones. That is purely an element of history. We are all members of ECOWAS and all the member states are committed to peace and security in the subregion. Without peace, without security, without stability in our subregion, it would be utopian to talk of building an economic community. It is therefore necessary that at this critical stage we pay special attention to maintaining peace and stability in the subregion. This is why, I repeat, it is disturbing to see the NPFL attacking a peace-loving country like Sierra Leone. We hope that every effort will be made by all the subregion's heads of state to ensure that this invasion ends.

[Yao] How do you react to President Compaore's offer to send troops to join ECOMOG?

[Bundu] At the Bamako summit, there was an appeal to countries that had not yet made any human and material contribution to ECOMOG to do so. I heard this contribution offer by President Compaore on a foreign radio.

[Yao] That means you were not officially notified?

[Bundu] I have not yet received an official note to that effect. I heard the news on BBC.

[Yao] How effective will this Burkinabe contribution to ECOMOG be?

[Bundu] That is not up to me. I will refer that to the heads of state. It is they who are qualified to make that decision.

[Yao] Since ECOMOG arrived in Liberia toward the end of last year, what in your view has been their contribution to the peace process in that country? Would you say that their role has been positive?

[Bundu] I would even say very positive! Let me seize the opportunity here to pay tribute to the officers and men of ECOMOG for what they have done so far. They did a wonderful, excellent job. The decision to put ECOMOG in place was an historic one in the subregion and even in Africa as a whole. I do not, therefore, have the least doubt in my mind regarding its positive contribution to peace in Monrovia or even in the entire country. It contributed to the rescue of nationals of several countries in Liberia.

In a nutshell, therefore, I would say that the men who make up ECOMOG accomplished their historic mission as best they could. As ECOWAS executive secretary, I am personally very proud of them.

[Yao] What would you say about Nigeria's leadership and excessively prominent influence in the entire ECOMOG setup?

[Bundu] Frankly speaking, I do not think Nigeria imposed any kind of leadership on ECOMOG. It is just that Nigeria had a greater capacity to send in a higher number of soldiers to ECOMOG. This is what made Nigeria a key partner in the process.

Obviously, that was foreseeable. I think that Nigeria's leadership role is widely accepted in the subregion, not only in the context of ECOMOG, but also in that of the general development of cooperation, of ECOWAS, etc.

[Yao] In the early 1960's, an African head of state referred to Nigeria as "big for nothing." Have we come a long way since then?

[Bundu] Nigeria has clearly demonstrated that it has a leading role to play, and, I repeat, not only in the subregion but also in Africa as a whole. I am particularly glad to see it playing that role in the interest of Africans.

[Yao] This leadership, which you hail, could it not one day lead to a destabilizing, subregional imperialism?

[Bundu] It is not an imposed leadership, but one acknowledged and accepted.

[Yao] By whom?

[Bundu] I would say by the rest of Africa. Each time we are faced with difficulties, we turn to Nigeria to find solutions.

[Yao] Do you mean ECOWAS, or the various individual countries?

[Bundu] Apart from ECOWAS, Nigeria also plays a positive role in the OAU. Nigeria has sufficiently demonstrated this. There are countless examples which bear testimony to Nigeria's leadership not only in African but also in world affairs, at the United Nations.

[Yao] Do you therefore think that the ECOMOG experience could be adopted once again if another country in the subregion happened to blow up tomorrow?

[Bundu] Several lessons could be drawn from that experience. The whole of Africa should indeed draw a lot of lessons from ECOMOG's launch and actual mission.

This experience opens the way for the nonaggression and the mutual assistance and defense protocols signed respectively in 1978 and 1981. These should be implemented to strengthen peace and stability in the subregion.

[Yao] Regarding the Liberian conflict itself, what general conclusions have you reached?

[Bundu] We hope eventually to be able to put an end to this conflict and the aggression against Sierra Leone. It would only be then that we would be able to concentrate our attention on progress and development, or, to put it better, tackle the problems that the men and women of the subregion have to face in their daily lives.

Botswana's Masire on 'Negative Image' of Africa

MB2404183191 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 24 Apr 91

[Text] The president, Dr. Quett Masire, has told participants at the just-ended Africa-America Conference in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, that there are many positive ways through which Africa can be perceived other than the negative image the press is trying to portray.

He said instead of concentrating on problems like droughts, starvation, internal conflict, and violations of human rights, the press can emphasize Africa's commitment to economic reform and political pluralism with great democratization, and focussing on the considerable progress being made.

He said 30 countries in Africa have adopted programs of structural adjustment of difficult fiscal, monetary, and trade policy reform that are often economically wrenching and politically threatening.

He spoke of challenges to Africa, a result of the reopening of Eastern Europe, and reconstruction of countries affected by the Gulf War, as well as the standing problems of crime, drugs, and unemployment in Europe and North America.

Dr. Masire said private and official financial assistance is likely to be shifted to these areas, a situation which suggests that additionality [as heard] in international aid to Africa will be difficult in coming years.

He said the Global Coalition for Africa, of which he is chairman, provides a powerful instrument for ensuring that Africa is not marginalized; that resources and investment flows are adequate; and that, with friends, Africa can sustain the comprehensive long-term action programs that are required to solve the critical problems.

He expressed the pleasure that American grant assistance to Africa is to increase markedly this year, and that a further increase of \$1 billion is programed for next year, and that this has been strongly supported by the Congressional black caucus and the work of Congressman William Grey.

The summit brought together 300 delegates from America, Botswana, Burkino Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, and Guinea Bissau. It adopted a number of resolutions, one of which calls on all members of the donor community, public and private, to significantly increase their allocation of resources to the cause of sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of Africa, to help reverse the downward trend experienced by these countries in economic growth, food production, literacy, per capita income, imbalance of trade, and the spread of diseases.

RSA, Regional Unrest, Franc Zone Viewed

AB2804125291 Dakar PANA in English 1242 GMT 24 Apr 91

["Weekly Press Review"]

[Excerpt] Dakar, 27 April (ZANA/AMAP/PANA)—Among the wide range of issues appearing in the editorials of African newspapers this week were the South African problem, democracy, tourism and the creation of a pan-African airline and the meeting on the franc monetary zone.

In an editorial titled Lesson From Lome, Yaounde, Nigeria's VANGUARD newspaper said: Pro-democracy demonstrations in Lome and Yaounde have finally instructed

General Eyadema of Togo and President Paul Biya of Cameroon that they cannot be an island. Recent world political trends, it said, have demonstrated that calls for political pluralism have taken the centre stage.

Sadly, it said, Africa's dictators are not always disposed to responding to such changes with philosophical calmness. And this, it continued, has resulted in the use of force in which scores of people have been killed as has been the case of Togo and the Cameroon.

The lesson in this for other dictators, particularly in Africa is: Nobody can halt the march of history, it said.

The Zairian weekly NZADI called for tolerance in order to achieve real democracy in the country. Party leaders, it said, must accept each other and respect the rules of the political game.

Another Zairian weekly, FORUM DES AS focussed its attention on the decision by the country's president, Mobutu Sese Seko, to return the leadership of the ruling Popular Revolutionary Movement.

Because he fears that this ship (the party) might sink mid-ocean, Mobutu has thought it better that he regain control of the ship's wheel. Thus, it went on, by regaining control of his party, the Zairian president ended the power struggle within the party in which his lackeys were engaged.

Nigeria's NATIONAL CONCORD was more concerned with what it said, in its title, was Mauritania's persecution of her black people. The paper was commenting on Amnesty International's recent call upon the Mauritanian Government to probe the deaths of over 200 blacks arrested in the country on treason charges in 1990.

The world, surely, cannot afford to continually fold its hands and look the other way, in the face of a campaign which increasingly assumes the scale of genocide against blacks in Mauritania, it said.

Given Nigeria's historic and enduring commitment to uphold the dignity of all blacks and Africans, it said, we owe to the Mauritanian blacks a moral obligation to speak out in unequivocal condemnation of their government's racist policies.

It continued: If the Mauritanian authorities still persist in their inhuman ways, then we must be prepared to take the plight of the country's black before the international community and secure mandatory and comprehensive sanctions, as a means of ushering in change to that country.

THE GUARDIAN, also of Nigeria, was concerned with the violence in South Africa [RSA].

Despite the ANC's (African National Congress') acute frustration with the regime's efforts to curb the violence, it said, maximum restraint is called for at this delicate stage of negotiations. The various leaders have a responsibility to promote understandings.

Commenting on charges of the complicity of South African security services in aiding Inkatha violence it said: It is indeed time for Defence Minister Magnus Malan currently

embroiled in a spate of controversy as regards the CCB as well as law and order minister, Adrian Vlok, to go. The CCB, or Civil Coordination Bureau, had the reputation of being the dirty tricks arm of South African intelligence.

President de Klerk would be demonstrating good faith and indeed good judgement in taking this step, it said.

Another Nigerian daily, the NATIONAL CONCORD, focussed on the issue of sanctions imposed on South Africa. The daily said that it condemned in the strongest terms, the recent announcement by the 12-member European Community of its decision to lift economic sanctions against South Africa. It termed the move premature and potentially damaging to the very cause of freedom in South Africa.

We must remind all other nations contemplating similar action that affirmative pledges to end apartheid are not enough, that what is needed is concrete action, and that sanctions should ideally be lifted only after proper consultation with the black freedom movements in South Africa.

For its part, the Zambia DAILY MAIL said South Africa should first of all get its house in order before it begins to enjoy international recognition and return to the world's sporting arena.

Also, the newspaper expressed support for the call made by ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela for Western states to maintain sanctions.

If the black people in South Africa are themselves calling for economic sanctions against the apartheid regime, then who are we to reject the idea? it said. It noted: What the government there has done, is merely to start the ball rolling in the direction of positive change. However, much more remains to be done.

The Malian daily L'ESSOR, evoked the problem of public impatience over expected salary increases, one month after the coup which overthrew Moussa Traore 26 March.

The paper underlined that the new authorities were not ignoring the need for increased salaries but they have chosen to proceed slowly to avoid hasty measures and unjust judgements.

Senegal's LE SOLEIL commented on the meeting in Ouagadougou on the franc zone. The newspaper said that the major aim of the meeting would be to define a common strategy with regard to next spring's meeting of the Bretton Woods institutions. It noted that the French franc has remained relatively stable so that the CFA, or Communate Financiere Africaine franc, has not experienced much damage.

But the CFA is threatened by the projected single monetary system in Europe and this fear still looms large in spite of the public statements of French authorities to the contrary, it said.

Supporting the idea of a transnational airline for ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] or Africa, the NEW NIGERIAN newspaper said airlines

have been unable to undertake all aspects of aircraft maintenance of today's fleets, because of the staggering costs involved. This is why we cannot agree more with the president (Ibrahim Babangida) in his call for the establishment of a transnational airline.

Already, it said, a small-scale version of such an airline exists in the form of Air Afrique, which is a joint venture between some French-speaking African countries.

One advantage, it said, is that in establishing a transnational airline venture, Air Afrique could serve as a launch pad on which a continent-wide airline could be built.

Concluding, it said, when established one way of ensuring the transnational airline works is to ensure that it is treated as a supra-national organisation where member countries would respect its rules of operation governing areas such as funding, administration etc.

It went on: Were it not for myopia of our erstwhile leaders, the West African sub-region would by now have become a political, economic and cultural entity. [passage omitted]

Undugo Energy Ministers Conclude Cairo Conference

NC2104172991 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1352 GMT
21 Apr 91

[Text] Cairo, 21 Apr (MENA)—The second conference of ministers of electricity and energy of the Nile Basin countries which belong to the Undugo [Swahili for brotherhood] organization ended its work in Cairo today. Delegations from Burundi, the Central African Republic, Egypt, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, and Zaire participated in the conference.

Eng. Mahir Abazah, Egyptian minister of electricity and energy, chaired the conference's final session. The conference issued a final statement which noted that the energy potential of the Nile basin countries will be greatly enhanced by a linking of their electricity networks.

The conference proposed that technical follow-up teams be established with the participation of all member countries to discuss technical cooperation in the fields of energy and electricity linkage.

The conference also underlined the importance of research and development into the use of new and renewable sources of energy. The conference decided to set up working teams to examine the issue in cooperation with concerned international and regional organizations.

The conference decided to formulate a program for technical cooperation among the Undugo countries in the field of energy. It supported the idea of holding seminars, conferences, and symposiums to discuss training and to exchange expertise and consultative services. The conference also called for joint projects to be undertaken to carry out specialized research into energy.

The conference called on regional and international organizations to supply all possible assistance to the Undugo countries.

The conference approved a proposal on the future establishment of a joint committee to coordinate energy projects. The committee will be charged with examining and following up on energy projects in the Undugo member countries.

The conference also approved a proposal to study the feasibility of establishing an African fund for energy development affiliated with the African Development Bank. The issue will be discussed further at the 27th OAU summit, due to be held in Nigeria in June.

The second conference of the Undugo ministers of electricity and energy began its work yesterday. It discussed the prospects for cooperation among member countries in the field of electricity, the project to link the Aswan and (Inga) dams with electricity cables, the program for technical cooperation among the Undugo countries, the follow up and coordination of activities in the field of energy, and the creation of an African fund for energy development.

The Undugo experts held a second meeting this morning under Ambassador Hasan Jad-al-Haq, Egypt's ambassador to Sudan, during which they discussed the conference's final statement.

The conference decided to hold its third session in Zaire at a date to be determined. It also decided its fourth session would be held in Khartoum in response to an invitation from the Sudanese minister of electricity and energy.

***Countries 'Competing' for Capital**

91AF0910A Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE
in Danish 1 Mar 91 p 11

[Article by Jesper Jespersen: "Africa Woos Private Capital"; first paragraph is BERLINGSKE TIDENDE introduction]

[Text] African countries are competing to offer foreign investors optimum conditions. Even avowed revolutionary leaders are in the race.

Africa tumbled into the abyss in the 1980's. Measured in fixed prices, the income per capita in Africa south of the Sahara fell over 2 percent a year. The prices of African export goods fell in the middle of the decade to the lowest since World War II. By the end of the decade, the purchasing power of these countries, because of the export, had fallen 15 percent from 1980 levels, when the situation was already serious.

While all this was happening, private foreign investment in Africa evaporated into nothing. Africans with money in the bank attempted to place it elsewhere. Today, Africa's wealth—measured in terms of its income—is much greater than South America's.

Now it is time to revise the old picture of Africa. It is still a continent in deep crisis, but one country after another is revising its economic policy. This is advantageous for businesses that wish to trade with Africa or invest.

Black Hole

Avowed revolutionary leaders in Africa are spearheading the drive toward liberalization, and are giving the nod to the private sector. They are wooing foreign investors: "Come, let us be partners. We guarantee you freedom to run your businesses and freedom to take your profits home."

Yet, seemingly, this image of Africa is obstructed like light in a black hole. Even Africans do not believe that their fortune is made. Tanzania's Trade Minister Cleopa Msuya:

"The money flows to the places where there already was money. Most countries in Africa are still not attractive enough. If telephones or roads, etc., are a problem, and if there are restrictions on the use of foreign currency, why should foreigners invest?"

His evaluation is: "We can improve the trade climate and achieve some advantages through this. But we shouldn't expect a breakthrough for investments."

Finance Minister Kwesi Botchwey of Ghana:

"Africa never gets anything but crumbs after investment in Europe, the United States, and the newly industrialized countries. Viewed realistically, investors find better offers other places than Africa. When we have created a better trade climate, it will help a little. But we must also advertise ourselves. All the countries are competing for investments and marketing is increasingly more professional."

Walking On Eggshells

The pessimistic statements of these two politicians can hardly be called good marketing. Others who formerly promoted themselves as revolutionaries have still more difficulty cultivating the art of walking on eggshells. An example is Ghana's coup leader of ten years ago, still the head of the self-proclaimed government and the "Provisional National Defense Council," Air Force Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings.

Ghana was one of the first countries to ratify the World Bank provision on investment guarantees, MIGA [Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency]. The country let MIGA advise it on how to create a good investment climate and was persuaded to participate in a conference for investors.

The mood was good here—until Jerry Rawlings came to the podium. He declared that foreign businessmen were swindlers. "Forgive him. He is not a diplomat, but a soldier," said an official who is now trying to smooth over the cracks.

When the former south African colony, Namibia, held its conference for foreign investors a couple of weeks ago, President and leader of the liberation movement SWAPO

[South-West African People's Organization], Sam Nujomo, projected a different style. His speech was clinically sanitized of earlier slogans. There was only praise for the private sector, despite the fact that the majority of the foreigners came from the archenemy nation, South Africa.

Special Labels On Capitalist Policy

In Zimbabwe, Danish businessman Jorgen Mogensen says: "We have a private capitalist economy, but the political leaders put strange labels on it. Zimbabwe is just about the only country to call itself socialist. This is something that the leaders of large foreign companies don't like to hear and consequently they stay away."

On the other hand, there has been no large-scale flight of the foreign industry that was already in the country when the present regime came to power after the white minority government of Ian Smith.

"They were able to see that it never was the intention to block private initiative in Zimbabwe," said the director of Zimbabwe's chamber of commerce, Dr. J.M.D. Saungweme. "Apart from a few exceptions, the whole economy is in private hands," he said and added: "It is shocking how Africa is misunderstood in Europe. And in the United States it is even worse. Americans are totally uninformed." He urges investors to look at the list of foreign enterprises who are flourishing in the country.

Joint Ventures

The type of investment Africa particularly wants is joint ventures. It affords the best opportunities for the transfer of technology. When a foreign investor draws up his estimates, he should realize that the investment to operate a little factory can be much greater in Africa than in Europe. One cannot simply count on a reliable electric or water supply, or on roads and shipping facilities. Connections to telecommunications systems in most countries are not adequate.

The countries struggle with a shortage of currency. Even though it is part of the new policy that businesses should have access to foreign currency, it is an uncertainty.

Africa lacks a trained workforce also, not least on the managerial level. Foreign investors have difficulty finding solid, local partners—and difficulty with finding competent intermediaries.

Paradoxically, the problem has been increased by the programs for structural adaptation to the World Bank and IMF models that preceded the current liberalizations. They called for, among other things, trimming of official budgets—also for education.

The governments have been obliged to implement these programs. The West has made this a condition for continued aid.

Cameroon

AFP Carries List of Interim Government

AB2804150791 Paris AFP in English 1046 GMT
27 Apr 91

[Text] Yaounde, April 27 (AFP)—Cameroon's new prime minister on Friday named an interim government to serve until multiparty elections, to be held before the end of the year. Sadou Hayatou, who was appointed prime minister Thursday by President Paul Biya, named a 32-member cabinet to replace a 30-member government formed last September. Two cabinet staff were also appointed. Few of the posts changed hands.

Mr. Hayatou's appointment followed nearly a month of anti-government unrest which left some 30 people dead. Mr. Biya had suppressed the premier's post he himself held before succeeding Amadou Ahidjo in 1982.

Since December, 16 opposition parties have been legally recognized and Mr. Biya says he wants multiparty parliamentary elections by the end of the year.

The opposition has been demonstrating for a national conference on the West African country's future, which Mr. Biya dismisses as unnecessary.

The new team is as follows:

President, head of state: Paul Biya
Prime Minister: Sadou Hayatou
Minister of Social Affairs and Women: Yao Aissatou
Agriculture: John Niba Ngu
Regional Administration: Andre Toungui Gilbert
Finance: Kis Justin Ndioro
Planning: Moussa Tchouta
Justice: Douala Moutome
Minister delegate to the president
for Defence: Edouard Akame Mfoumou
Public Health: Joseph Mbede
Minister to the President, special
missions: Ogor Ebot Nkui
Industrial and Trade Development: Rene Owona
National Education: Joseph Mboui
Stockbreeding, Fisheries and
Animal Industries: Amadjoda Adjodji
Higher Education, Data Processing
and Scientific Research: Joseph Owona
Civil Service: Garga Haman Adji
Information and Culture: Augustin Kontchou
Youth and Sports: Ibrahim Mbombo Njoya
Mining, Water and Energy: Francis Nkwain
Post and Telecommunications: Sanda Oumarou
Foreign Relations: Jacques Booh Booh
Public Works and Transport: Paul Tessa
Labour and Social Security: Jean-Baptiste Bokam
Town Planning and Accommodation: Henri Eyebe Ayissi
Tourism: Benjamin Itoe
Minister delegate to the prime minister
for Planning, Economic Stabilisation
and Recovery: Roger Tchoungui

Secretaries of State:

Defence: Amadou Ali
Finance, No. 1: Inoni Ephraim
Finance, No. 2: Urbain Olanguena Awono
Agriculture: Tikela Kemone
Industrial and Trade Development: Abogo Nkono Louis
National Education: Jean Yunga Teghen
Planning and Regional Development: Ndanga Ndinga

Prime Minister Ready To Meet Opposition Leaders

AB2804161591 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Efficiency, accountability, openness, and dialogue are five watchwords for the new government. For the first time in Cameroon, the decision to effect a Cabinet reshuffle has been announced beforehand. Barely three hours after the new Cameroonian Prime Minister, Sadou Hayatou, gave his first news conference, he published the list of his cabinet, which was marked by the departure of three ministers: Simon Bassileken of the Ministry of Finance, Marcel Niat Njifendji of Plan and Regional Development, and Adolphe Moudiki of Justice. They have been replaced by Justin Ndioro, former director general of the Edea-based Cameroon Aluminum Company, as minister of finance; Moussa Tchouta, former deputy executive secretary of the Addis Ababa-based UN Economic Commission for Africa, as the new minister of plan and regional development; and lawyer Douala Moutome as the new minister of justice and keeper of the seals. The rest of the Cabinet—ministers and secretaries of state alike—remained unchanged.

Looking at Mr. Hayatou's news conference yesterday, one will notice that it was marked alternately by flexibility and firmness depending on the theme under review, and by a spirit of dialogue with all national sociopolitical tendencies—taxi drivers, students, opposition leaders. The government is even prepared to place the upcoming legislative elections under international supervision if the opposition deems that a guarantee of free and fair elections. That is for flexibility.

There was also firmness in the message regarding the enforcement of law and order and respect for national institutions. Let us listen to some passages from Prime Minister Hayatou's conference, in which he also gives a timetable for consultations:

[Begin Hayatou recording] Starting next week, I will invite a certain number of personalities to meet with me if they agree to come, so that we can discuss either general policies or economic problems or else certain specific socioeconomic problems. A list is being drafted of such persons, who will be drawn from business and culture sectors, as well as from among taxi drivers. I plan to hold talks with them and with students as well.

There is a malaise. As the saying goes, anyone who is not a communist at the age of 18 is not good-hearted and anyone who remains a communist at 40 is mindless. So we are quite prepared to try to understand certain of the students'

concerns and discuss them. They are not people who can be rejected. On the contrary, they are our younger brothers, our children, or our grandchildren, and they deserve special attention. [end recording]

Concerning the opposition groups, the prime minister said they were neither undesirable nor discounted. Listen to the prime minister:

[Begin Hayatou recording] I am also planning to invite opposition leaders so that we can examine all their problems and agree on a certain platform. As I said yesterday, we should break down the wall of misunderstanding being erected between Cameroonians. [end recording]

Radio Reports Release of 20 Political Prisoners

AB2604205391 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Excerpt] The general amnesty has now become a concrete fact. All people condemned for attempts on the security of the state in 1983 and in 1984 regained their freedom this morning. Their release was part of the implementation of a command from the head of state and in conformity with the amnesty law recently voted by the National Assembly. Twenty former mutineers were affected by this measure. There is joy on the faces of all of them. Some former detainees who are already happy with the prospect of returning to their jobs, did not hesitate to talk to our reporter, Antoine Bedar. One was Major (Abdoulaye Matan), former head of military security. [passage omitted]

[Paris AFP in English at 1953 GMT on 26 April carries a report on President Paul Biya's release of prisoners and adds, "Among the prisoners set free were Captain Salatou Adamou, aide-de-camp to Mr. Biya's predecessor as president, Amadou Ahidjo, and Commander Ibrahima Oumarou."]

Radio Reports Fire at Bafoussam Prison; One Dead

AB2604211391 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Excerpt] The Bafoussam central prison was set ablaze today by inmates following a clash between the mutineers and the prison wardens. The clash resulted in one dead and some property damage. [passage omitted]

*** Famine in North Reveals Farm Policy Problems**

91AF0944A Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE
in French Mar 91 p 65

[Article by Michel Lobe Ewane: "Cameroon: Story of an Expected Drought"; first paragraph is JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE introduction]

[Text] It was believed that the country had achieved food self-sufficiency. However, the lack of rain revealed significant regional disparities.

"That is all we needed—for Cameroon to ask for food assistance! It is impossible to imagine. What happened to

the food self-sufficiency that they dinned into our ears for all of those years?" The young man who made these remarks to us was a Cameroonian student in France. He did not hide either his anger or his indignation. He even admitted to having felt a terrible sense of humiliation when he heard the news on Radio France International.

In effect, Cameroon has issued an appeal for humanitarian aid. In Paris the French authorities did not hide their surprise and their incredulity. However, in Yaounde it was said that France and Germany will reply at the beginning of March. There was the same sense of astonishment in Brussels, where the reaction was quicker, however, since the Cameroonian Government received a promise of aid from the EEC.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture in Yaounde, the drought reported in 1990 caused a grain shortage in the Extreme-North province. The shortage was estimated at 92,500 tons, and 604,350 people are threatened with the scarcity.

Contacted on 15 February by telephone, Tikela Kemone, secretary of state for agriculture, explained that "the rains stopped at the beginning of September. Usually it is the end of September when they end. Now," he added, "they had already started quite late, in July. In fact, since last September we knew that there would be a shortage. We thought we would be able to make it up with the surpluses in the south. However, food habits are different between the north and the south, and there is a problem with food storage. It would not be adequate to send plantains to the north. It will still be necessary to find ways of storing them."

The situation may seem paradoxical for a country considered to be prosperous in the agricultural area. However, one fact was clear: food self-sufficiency in Cameroon was truly a delusion. Tikela Kemone himself recognized this fact implicitly when he said: "Yes, although on an overall basis you can say that we have achieved self-sufficiency, when you go into the details, there are major imbalances between one region and another. And in effect, in the northern part of the country, each time that there are climatic disturbances, the security of the food supply is threatened."

In Cameroon the most cynical people say that this food aid was only requested to provide the government with a distorted way of receiving the kind of budgetary assistance that it needs in view of a deteriorating financial situation. Naturally, this accusation was rejected in Yaounde. However, in the view of the secretary of state for agriculture, it was appropriate to restate the position of the government in the context of the economic crisis, which Cameroon is going through. He stated: "We are going through a rather special period in our history. The state has not been able to pull together the urgently needed resources to deal with this situation. The budget was approved in June, and at that time we could not know what the agricultural season would be like in northern Cameroon. However, even

though we will need a supplementary budget to pay for the food surpluses of the farmers in the south, our resources now are particularly limited." The needs are stated to be 71,200 tons, valued at between 13.5 to 14 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs. The World Food Program has already provided help in the form of 5,046 tons of rice and 336 tons of vegetable oils. The Cameroonian Government itself has ordered 1,000 tons of corn. However, this is far from enough.

The appeal made by the Cameroonian authorities sounds like an admission of the failure of the government's agricultural policy. This failure reflects first the absence of a forecasting policy, which could have been based on storage facilities. Now, very few investments have been made to expand storage. Then, the shortage in the Extreme-North is the first sign of the limits of the recent changes in the Semry project (for the production of rice) in this area. Certainly, as Tikela Kemone said, defending the position of the government, "The authorities cannot invent rain." However, he conceded: "We should have oriented our policy toward water control." It is also a reality that the liberalization of the rice distribution system deprived Semry of stocks to regulate the supply. The secretary of state recognized this, when he said: "Previously, Semry had a monopoly on the sale of rice. This function is now left to the cooperatives. Liberal economic policy requires this. The farmer sells his production to whomever he wishes. Semry no longer has any stocks. This is because, and it is something to regret, the Nigerians have bought all of the rice which Semry produced."

In short, Cameroon pays the price, in terms of international humiliation, for a reform that was not anticipated: the uncertainties of the weather.

Central African Republic

President Kolingba Promises Multiparty Democracy

AB2204215291

[Editorial Report] Bangui Domestic Service in French at 1800 GMT on 22 April carries a recorded address to the nation by Central African Republic President Andre Kolingba following an extraordinary session of the Steering Committee of the ruling party, the Central African Democratic Rally, on 22 April.

Kolingba says, "The history of a nation is tailored by the people that make it up, according to the circumstances, the hazards, and the vicissitudes of their development at any given time. This history will be a bright one according to whether or not the people are able to demonstrate intelligence and wisdom or allow events to take them by surprise. Thus, I have just asked our national movement, the Central African Democratic Rally, to reconsider the decision adopted at the Berberati congress. That decision consisted of the pursuit of the Central African Republic [CAR] democratic experience within the framework of a single party. Henceforth, all kinds of thought and all views nationwide can be expressed freely within the framework of parties of their choice."

Kolingba also says, "We must demonstrate our commitment to fully achieving all the citizen's liberties, so that all CAR citizens can participate actively in the country's democratic life. As far as I am concerned, this development is irreversible and must be one of the priorities of our parliament which, without delay, will get down to work to give a constitutional background to the introduction of a multiparty political system. Of course, this means the review of the Constitution and the adoption of (?related) texts, within a reasonable time." He adds, "Along with the parliament's action, the government must tackle the necessary reforms that will lead to free elections."

Kolingba concludes his speech by announcing: "Faithful to my conviction of the virtue of dialogue and brotherliness and with my unflinching determination to lead CAR toward more freedom and progress, with the participation of all, I have decided to grant clemency to all those who are currently being detained for political agitation, including the compatriots arrested after the acts of violence which our capital witnessed on 13, 14, and 15 October 1990."

Congo

President Speaks 26 Apr. Opposition Comments

AB2704192591 Paris AFP in Engl. 1547 GMT
27 Apr 91

[Text] Brazzaville, April 27 (AP) —Some Congolese opposition figures were assassinated "through our errors" and others perished because "they took up arms" against the government, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso said late Friday.

Breaking silence for the first time since the start in March of a national conference that has seen many verbal onslaughts against his regime, General Sassou-Nguesso asked for the "well-meaning understanding and indulgence of our people for mistakes and wrongdoing".

The president said in a nationwide radio and television broadcast that he was "speaking in the name of the whole political class since independence as well as in a personal capacity."

"Rehabilitation and compensation measures" must be taken in memory of the victims of single party rule, added Gen. Sassou-Nguesso, who took power in February 1979 to pursue an established policy of Marxist military rule.

The president's speech was not all regrets, however. He slammed some southern participants in the national conference for blaming all the nation's woes on their compatriots from the north, saying: The cadres who failed are from every background and of all kinds of geographical origin." "The future of democracy in the Congo belongs not to those who purport to be innocent and unstained, but to those who know how to adapt to the new demands" of the times, Gen. Sasso-Nguesso added.

He refused to reopen the case of murdered former president, Marien Ngouabi, without fresh evidence. Gen. Sassou's own predecessor, General Joachim Yhombi-Opango, has accused the head of state of responsibility for that March 1977 killing.

He concluded with a passionate plea for the introduction of multiparty democracy on a non-tribal basis, without hatred.

Congolese Roman Catholic prelate, Ernest N'kombo, on Thursday from the chair of the conference denounced "tribalism that has become a gut instinct" in a speech accusing delegates of complaining about assassinations and embezzlement "for political reasons" and "not in the overriding interests of the nation".

In the conference debates, broadcast live, the Congolese people have heard accusations of murder, terrorism and corruption from opposition politicians who feel free to speak out for the first time.

A leading opposition figure, Mr. Jean Pierre Thistère Tchikaya on Saturday called Col. Sassou-Nguesso's speech "constructive and reassuring", but stressed that a way should be found to avoid "drowning individual blame in collective responsibility." "We're not in a Catholic church," was the crisper reaction of Social Democratic Party leader Clément Mierassa.

A spokesman for the national conference proceedings, Bernard Mayaka, announced that Labor Day celebrations planned for May 1 would be held over to a later date to avoid anti-government demonstrations.

Sao Tome & Principe

* President Comments on Plans for Economy

91AF0953A Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE
in French Apr 91 pp 65-66

[Article and interview with President Miguel Trovoada, by J.L. Clouard; place and date not given: "The Recovery President"; first paragraph is JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE introduction]

[Text] The objectives of the new president Miguel Trovoada are to diversify agricultural production, spur the development of tourism, and set up a structural readjustment program. An interview.

Miguel Trovoada was elected president of Sao Tome and Principe on 3 March, 1991, receiving 83 percent of the ballots cast of a voter turnout of 65 percent. An independent candidate, he was supported by the Democratic Convergence Party-Reflection Group (PCD-GR), which took 33 of the 55 seats in the People's Assembly 20 January 1991 in the legislative elections.

Although the former Sao Tomean president Manuel Pinto da Costa, who had led the country—previously a dependency of Portugal—since 1975, announced he would not

run for president, two candidates had said they would seek the votes of the some 50,000 voters among the archipelago's 120,000 inhabitants.

But less than 48 hours before the election was to take place, Guadalupe de Ceita and Alfonso dos Santos announced they were withdrawing their names.

The two men accused Miguel Trovoada of "corruption" and "defamation," but the High Appeals Court decided there were no legal grounds for postponing the elections. As far as the new Sao Tomean president is concerned, his "opponents actually feared a crushing defeat and withdrew under false pretenses."

Fifty-five year old Miguel Trovoada is a historic figure in the struggle against Portuguese colonization. As president of the Committee to Liberate Sao Tome and Principe, he drew attention to himself at the United Nations tribune in 1962, when the Portuguese delegation left the room during his presentation of the country's situation. In July 1972, he became a member of the political bureau of the Movement to Liberate Sao Tome and Principe, then was named secretary general for foreign relations. He became prime minister on independence in 1975, then held various ministerial posts, in foreign affairs, national defense, cooperation, and industry. Miguel Trovoada was arrested four years later—accused of being an "enemy of the people" and an "agent of the West." After serving 21 months in prison without ever having been judged, he was released and went into exile in Paris with his wife and three sons. He took up residence in France, working as an African affairs consultant for nearly 10 years.

Miguel Trovoada's desire to consolidate his country's democratic institutions and achieve social justice caused him to react favorably to President Francois Mitterrand's La Baule speech (June, 1990). In particular, he said that he favored the idea of a linkage between international aid and different countries' levels of democratization. He agreed to answer JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE's questions.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] What comments do you have on the election results?

[Miguel Trovoada] I ran on a platform of change. The high voter turnout and the percentage of ballots that voters were kind enough to cast for me show extraordinary popular support for this plan for change. With the support of the people, I will therefore endeavor to carry it out.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] What will your initial concerns be?

[Miguel Trovoada] In the spirit of the new Constitution, foreign affairs, defense, and security are under the direct authority of the president. So I will undertake an international initiative. First, to restore the dignity of the Sao Tomean state, because its image has been damaged by the many scandals that have lately ridden its public life. The goal is to inspire the confidence of our partners, whether institutional or private, in order to get the economy moving again.

As you know, we signed an agreement protocol for a draft structural adjustment program (SAP). The former government's policy prompted the last evaluation mission from the World Bank to recommend that the program be suspended. So we must do everything we can to resume it.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] Might not the social cost be extremely high?

[Miguel Trovoadá] Certainly we are going to have to implement a whole series of very tough measures, that will have a terribly negative impact on the people's living standard. But the first phase of the SAP was supposed to have begun in 1987. If the former government had respected the terms, the measures could have been implemented in homeopathic doses. We are in no way responsible for the situation we are inheriting. Nothing has been done for a year, and the broad macro-economic imbalances have been exacerbated. So we are going to have to take drastic measures—in particular, to devalue our currency by about 50 percent.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] Will the international institutions and traditional moneylenders have confidence in you?

[Miguel Trovoadá] It will certainly be difficult to sensitize the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to our situation, but it would be a shame if we were penalized for the actions of our predecessors when we are coming to power through entirely democratic means. It would amount to penalizing the population as well. We are hoping to be able to negotiate more flexible conditions.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] What sort of economic priorities will you defend?

[Miguel Trovoadá] Sao Tome and Principe is an essentially agricultural country. We are going to return to what was already the main preoccupation of the National Liberation Movement 15 years ago, namely the diversification of agriculture. We want to get away from the exclusive cultivation of cacao, whose price has plummeted, by expanding crops that could contribute to restoring our balance of payments: peppers, for example, but also coffee, which was abandoned despite the fact that we were producing an excellent Arabica. We are also going to seek new financing to recover abandoned agricultural areas. By diversifying our food crops, we also want to move toward self-sufficiency, and so reduce our dependence on outside countries.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] Sao Tome and Principe also possess formidable tourist attractions.

[Manuel Trovoadá] Indeed, we have been especially blessed by nature: superb valleys, remarkable beaches.... We will have to create infrastructures that do not now exist, not only in terms of housing capacity, but also highway systems, energy supply, and supply of drinking water.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] That is an enormous task and will require substantial financing.

[Manuel Trovoadá] That is why we will not hesitate to call on private investors, notably foreign investors, since national saving is very limited. But we won't be afraid to be inventive. We want to set up small projects and promote the establishment of small companies. This incentive policy will be backed by a real ease in obtaining credit.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] Over the last few years, several governments have adopted very advantageous investment codes or have created free zones. Are you thinking of following that course?

[Manuel Trovoadá] We are not ruling out those possibilities a priori. But above all else we want the economic repercussions to benefit the country and its people, which is not always the case. First we are going to draft a clear legal framework to put a stop to the operations that have previously been carried out in a disjointed fashion, often, it should be pointed out, with the more or less self-interested complaisance of certain ministers.

[JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIQUE] Have you already set a timetable?

[Manuel Trovoadá] Everything depends first of all on the results of the negotiations we are going to conduct with the organizations that support our structural adjustment program. If we are granted a moratorium allowing us to gradually undertake everything that was not done before us, then two or three years is a reasonable time frame. I believe it is very much in the interest of the countries with whom we are cooperating, especially those of the European Community, to support our young democracy. If we succeed, it will indeed be an extraordinary example for our people. But if we fail, the population may think that it gained nothing in working for the establishment of a democracy. Who could want that?

Zaire

UNITA's Savimbi 'Optimistic' About Cease-Fire
AB2704091591 Paris AFP in French 1446 GMT
26 Apr 91

[Text] Kinshasa, 26 Apr (AFP)—A cease-fire accord between the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA-armed opposition against the Luanda regime) could come next May, said Mr. Jonas Savimbi today in Kinshasa, according to AZAP, the Zairian news agency.

The UNITA leader, who arrived yesterday evening in Zaire to meet President Mobutu Sese Seko, added: "The war is over for me," reported AZAP.

Mr. Savimbi, who said he was "very optimistic" that the conflict, which has lasted for over 15 years, will end soon, hoped that general elections would be held in September. The direct peace negotiations between the Luanda government and UNITA representatives reconvened several weeks ago in Portugal.

Government Agrees To Postpone Conference

*AB2704114891 Paris AFP in French 1024 GMT
27 Apr 91*

[Text] Kinshasa, 27 Apr (AFP)—At the request of the opposition parties, the Zairian Government has just "accepted the principle of the postponement of the national conference," which was scheduled for 29 April, until a later date, according to an official source here today. Many parties held the view that the initial date for this political forum, which they deem of capital importance, was too close and requested a postponement. To "satisfy their concern," the government has decided to postpone the conference, the same source explained.

The preparatory commission, appointed when the decision to hold this much awaited conference was announced, will meet on Monday, 29 April, to work out organizing modalities. According to observers, the government decided upon the postponement because of material problems, notably the difficulty in convening delegates from all the provinces of this vast country and the accommodation problems in the capital.

According to the same sources, neither the new date nor the venue of the conference have yet been set. The decision will be made by the preparatory commission, which will also put forward a timetable for organizing a constitutional referendum, which is likely to be held in August 1991.

Djibouti

Government Buildings Attacked 25, 26 Apr

EA2704223091 *Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali*
1700 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] A statement released today by the Djibouti Internal Affairs Ministry said that an armed group attacked government buildings in (Ali Dada) district on 25 and 26 April. The armed men used explosive devices—grenades—in their conspiracy against the government buildings and the house of the district head, who at the time of the attack was in Obock town. In its statement, the ministry said the heinous attack was aimed at destroying government buildings and headquarters there. The statement reported no human casualties.

In light of the incident, the ministry appeals to people, in particular the residents of (Ali Dada) district, to maintain calm and to help in the investigations into the incident to enable the culprits to be captured.

Ethiopia

'Campaign Headquarters' Set Up To Combat Rebels

EA2704215091

[Editorial Report] Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic at 1700 GMT on 27 April announces: "The People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia State Council has issued a special decree to establish a national campaign headquarters. This is in line with and based on the peaceful and political proposals of the third extraordinary congress of the national Shengo [parliament] to implement activities to halt the arrogant war seeking the disintegration of Ethiopia's unity and in order to fulfill the necessary legal and organizational conditions."

The radio adds: "Though the Ethiopian people have repeatedly confirmed their readiness to resolve the problems in the northern part of our country peacefully, the attacks on the people and the country continue unabated. Hence, the Shengo has explained to the State Council that it has become necessary to establish a national campaign headquarters in a strengthened and organized manner in order to achieve fruitful results in the efforts being made toward this."

The decree lists three main objectives: The first is: "To mobilize the people and coordinate the Army and the popular struggle to map out the necessary strategy to guarantee the security and peace of the people and to give the appropriate directives so as to thwart and avoid the dangers looming for the country's unity and sovereignty."

Second: "It will give directives for the training, organization, arming and deployment for duty of a force that will carry out guerrilla warfare in the zones as it deems necessary and follow up its implementation."

Third, "The national campaign headquarters will have all necessary powers" for its goals, "plan and give comprehensive directives" to avert danger, "mobilize the people and

deploy them alongside the people's militia and the Armed Forces, organize them, and lead them to enable them to fight," implement a recruitment drive, and ensure that the people's "security and peace" are protected.

Rebel Radio on 'Destructive Decree'

EA2804113691 *(Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic*
0400 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] The Dergue government has issued a decree which will enable all Ethiopians to give their lives and property to the destructive war. The Dergue government yesterday made official the destructive decree, which will enable all Ethiopians to give their lives and property to the war of destruction.

In the decree, the new Revolutionary Campaign Center which is to be established has been given the right to assign and deploy any Ethiopian citizen, on an individual or group basis, to any place deemed necessary as well the right to (?appropriate) the property of the government, organizations, or individuals. The Campaign Center declared by the Dergue has also been given the right to inflict military punishment on every citizen as well as in the regular (?work)places of civilians and on the so-called People's Militia and police (?force), who are considered potential obstacles to the Dergue decree. It has also been learned that under the Dergue's decree, the Campaign Center has the right to arrest any citizen and search residences.

The destructive Dergue decree has been declared on the basis of the resolutions of the third emergency congress of the Dergue Shengo, and it will be recalled that the Shengo resolutions have been given support by the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party, the All-Ethiopian Socialist Movement, the Ethiopian People's Democratic Alliance, the Ethiopian Democratic Union, and [words indistinct] as well as the Coalition of Ethiopian Democratic Forces, which was established last week in the United States.

EPRDF Rebels Withdraw From Ambo

EA2904083491 *(Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic*
0400 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] It has been learned that the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] popular army recently captured Ambo [west of Addis Ababa] and its environs. The Dergue government, which fell into a great panic with the capture of Ambo, deployed its huge army in the Ambo area on (?several) fronts to wage a decisive struggle.

After remaining in the Ambo area and assessing the situation, our army found that the location of the place is not convenient for it to destroy the enemy army and has decided to withdraw from Ambo for the time being and [words indistinct] to resume annihilation of the enemy

army in a short time. The heroic EPRDF popular army has left Ambo for the time being to exploit the situation when more convenient and to free not only Ambo, but to liberate [words indistinct] areas as well, and it would like to make this clear.

In line with the decisions of the third Shengo congress in particular, its activities in the Ambo area clearly indicate that the Dergue has decided to continue with the war rather than pursue peace. This will enable the EPRDF to move to a counteroffensive and continue its activity for the complete destruction of the Dergue as a whole.

Mengistu Discusses Receiving Bush Message

*EA2704215891 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1700 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Report by Asefa Seyoum, ENA palace reporter—recorded]

[Text] In a ceremony held at the State Council this afternoon, President George Bush's message was delivered to Comrade President Mengistu by Mr. Rudy Boschwitz, former member of Congress and special envoy of the President. President George Bush's message, which centered on relations between Ethiopia and the United States and other bilateral issues, reaffirmed the firm conviction of the people and government of America regarding the preservation of the supremacy and territorial integrity of Ethiopia. Turning to the issue of the peace proposals adopted recently by the third extraordinary congress of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE] national Shengo [parliament], he [not further specified] said his government supported the resolutions passed and reaffirmed that he would give the necessary support to its implementation.

In a speech after receiving President George Bush's message from Mr. Boschwitz, Comrade President Mengistu thanked the American Government for its stand and its goodwill cooperation in all ways in a bid to bring about a peaceful solution to the problems in our country, and expressed the conviction that this support would continue further. Comrade President Mengistu went on to say that as long as the peace and security of the Ethiopian people is guaranteed for their development, the Ethiopian people and government will make any sacrifice for this end. The comrade president and the envoy discussed various bilateral issues between Ethiopia and America.

Present during the ceremony were Comrade Tesfaye Dinkagn, alternate Politburo member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee and PDRE prime minister; Comrade Kasa Kebede, member of the WPE Central Committee, Mr. Robert (?Frazier), director of national security [as heard]; and Mr. Robert [words indistinct].

Oromo Radio Says Asosa Military Bases Destroyed

*EA2804101691 (Clandestine) Voice of Oromo
Liberation in Oromo 1000 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Western Oromia—In the offensive carried out by the Oromo Liberation Army [OLA] in western Oromia

from 1 to 19 April 1991, all fascist Dergue military bases in the towns of Asosa Administrative Area were destroyed and our people and others were fully liberated, including [word indistinct] and its environs in (Jima-Hero) Province in Welega Administrative Area, as will be recalled.

Effective steps are being taken to establish mass organizations where they were not established before and to strengthen those that have been established in the Asosa Administrative Area towns and their environs. This is going ahead properly, step by step. In this respect, mass meetings took place in Asosa town on 22 April 1991 and in the towns of Bambesi and Mendi on 23 and 24 April 1991 respectively and were concluded with good results.

In all the mass meetings, which were held democratically, the people discussed several issues and passed resolutions. Among the resolutions passed by the people were: the necessity to strengthen the OLA as well as to eliminate elements against Oromo independence from their [word indistinct], and to struggle bitterly to defend the political goals of the Oromo Liberation Front. They also discussed exhaustively the current situation in the Ethiopian empire and passed resolutions to defend the interests of the Oromo nation in this situation by holding a gun in one hand and grass, the symbol of peace, in the other.

TPLF Continues 'Arrogant' War Against EPRP

*EA2804114591 (Clandestine) Voice of Ethiopia
on the Path to Democracy in Amharic 0400 GMT
28 Apr 91*

[Excerpt] The war unleashed by the weyane [Tigray People's Liberation Front, TPLF; Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF] against the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party [EPRP] and the people living in liberated territory has continued. The arrogant campaign, which was begun by the TPLF-EPRDF on 22 April 1991 with coordinated forces from several directions on 25 April 1991 against the EPRP-organized towns and the inhabitants of liberated territory, has continued.

While the local people have continued their popular defense alongside the EPRP combatants operating in the area, the TPLF-EPRDF has intensified the war in line with its belligerent aim of waging war against the EPRP. In this respect, according to news received from several places in the area, the inhabitants of the liberated territory, angered at the war unleashed against the people by the TPLF-EPRDF, are strongly condemning its belligerent acts and warning it to put a stop to the war it has begun against the people. [passage omitted]

Mengistu Addresses Delegation From Jerusalem

*EA2804092291 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 0400 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Excerpts] At the State Council yesterday afternoon, Comrade President Mengistu Haile-Mariam received an emblem denoting our unity and heard messages from Ethiopians residing in Jerusalem in connection with the current situation in our country. The two messages—a

historical map of our country; the national banner, which is the sign of our unity and entity; and a slogan which says: One Ethiopia or Death, which was sent by the archbishop of Jerusalem, Father Antanios, from the monks who are in [word indistinct] monastery and from the Ethiopian Laities' Association in Jerusalem—were presented to Comrade President Mengistu by Belata Haile Yared Mokuria, representative of the Association of Monks in Jerusalem. Belata Haile Yared made the following speech when presenting the emblem and the messages:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] We are very worried and saddened at the prevailing situation and the problems looming over the lives and existence of the people, the looming problems of unity and existence. Since we much regret the ongoing civil war launched to ruin our ancient country's honor and unity, we are praying about this. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Comrade President Mengistu, after receiving the Ethiopian flag and the emblem with the slogan, Ethiopia or Death, made the following speech:

[Begin recording] Ethiopians from Jerusalem, Archbishop, Monks, Laities, and individuals, and our Father: On behalf of the Ethiopian Government, I felt great honor and pride when receiving the holy and respected Ethiopian flag, which shows the unity of Ethiopia and which has been preserved for a long time, from generation to generation, by their blood, sweat, and lives. We know how much not only you Ethiopian citizens who are abroad, but even foreigners who care for Ethiopia, feel for our country's present situation. I am sure that you will also understand what we feel and what kind of historic responsibilities we are shouldering. Ethiopia was and is present, and will remain so.

During different periods, we have faced many ordeals. In fact, as I tried to express during my recent speech, the sacrifices paid by past generations to foil the will and attempts of the enemy and to preserve Ethiopia's famous name and culture are not to be underestimated. Today, the responsibilities left to us are not that simple. We are mortal, but the people and country will live on. Our deeds and aims are to lay down something lasting for the next generation.

If it had been a question of a foreign invader, the problem would certainly have been much simpler. What made the problem so puzzling and unclear to us and the reason for the complicated and great sacrifices is that this fighting is a civil war. We understand each other, we speak one language, and we also say we are Ethiopians—but we are trying to destroy, dismember, bleed, dishonor Ethiopia, and make her disintegrate. That is why this generation is unable to emerge from the problem and why the problem has become insoluble and so puzzling. It is not because of the historical coincidence of Ethiopia but due to the pressure of the people and history that we are facing this ordeal. [Word indistinct] even though the Ethiopian people have been faced with various problems at different

times, these have passed without capitulation or surrender. This generation will be ready and we will make them ready.

We have a choice. Since the war is a civil war, we certainly want to solve all the problems peacefully and in a constructive way, to bring society to a peaceful existence, and by safeguarding the honor and stability of our country, to advance to development and prosperity. We do not have any plan beyond this. If this is not achieved, however, and if it becomes a question of existence rather than of development and prosperity, then truly we will have no option but to defend the unity of Ethiopia.

This is our first choice; the Ethiopian people's choice will also be to defend and safeguard unity with all the necessary sacrifices, to pass it on to the next generation. For this, I and the Ethiopian people [words indistinct].

In this regard, our father, the archbishop in Jerusalem, fathers and brothers and society in general, truly we will keep our word, believe us. We also want you to believe us when we say we are ready to do anything for the unity, existence, and dignity of Ethiopia and to fulfill the people's (?demand). So I want to ask you to pass on that we are pledging to do so. I also ask you to be with us through your prayers and moral support. As requested, I will hand over the Ethiopian flag to the various administrative areas, the peoples and government establishments. Thank you very much. [end recording]

Kenya

Ugandan Envoy Denies Youths Training in Libya

EA2804090491 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English
27 Apr 91 p 5

[Muturi Nyamu article]

[Excerpts] Uganda's acting high commissioner to Kenya, Dr J.A. Kamanyire, yesterday denied press reports that Uganda was involved in the recruitment of 33 Kenyan youths for guerrilla training in Libya. Kamanyire said he had so far not received any official protest from the Kenyan Government over the youth training.

He was responding to reports in "The Standard" newspaper which last Wednesday [24 April, as published] gave a full list of the 33 Kenyan youths who were taken for military training in Libya through Uganda. [passage omitted]

The envoy termed "The Standard" report as "manifestation of more falsehoods" perpetrated by the press to poison the relationship between Kenya and Uganda which he termed as "excellent and bordering on common goodwill".

Dr Kamanyire was speaking to the press after receiving 20 Leyland-Daf Comet buses from CMC (Kenya) Limited. Flanked by Mr Mutumba Kakoza, the first secretary in charge of commercial affairs, Dr Kamanyire said "The Standard" report was "too sensational and outrightly

wrong". He said the press should avoid sensational issues likely to spoil relations between the two countries.

He said, "when we received reports of Kenyans undergoing training in Libya in 1989, we launched investigations and a Ugandan, Mr William Mpagi Mkasa was arrested and jailed for two years for giving false information to Kenyan security forces on the training affair. We found that it was all false information", said Dr Kamanyire.

He said "it is enemies of these two countries who want to wreck the peaceful atmosphere between Uganda and Kenya and we must watch out because when this happens, the people of both countries will definitely suffer".

Dr Kamanyire, who, during his talks insisted that he was a free man and the press should be free to contact him for cross check of facts regarding Uganda, also dismissed a story carried by the "Kenya Times" that Uganda was involved in a conspiracy to overthrow the Kenyan Government.

The "Kenya Times" story said that top officials of President Museveni including Mr Omara Atubo, Uganda's minister [of state] for foreign affairs and regional cooperation, and the director of General Intelligence Mr Jimmy Muhwezi were arrested by the Museveni government after it found them acting double agents.

To give evidence to its report the "Kenya Times" also published a letter written by Mr Muhwezi to Dr Kamanyire, urging him to speed up the organisation of an uprising in Kenya and to avoid what the letter called "...the embarrassments of the 7/7/90 (Saba Saba Day) where the other comrades failed to escape and got themselves arrested."

But in reply to the said letter, Dr Kamanyire yesterday denied that Mr Muhwezi had ever worked for the Uganda intelligence nor did he write a letter to him (Dr Kamanyire). He said contrary to our story Mr Muhwezi was never arrested and the purported letter's signature did not correspond to that of Mr Muhwezi.

Somalia

Polish Ship Hijacked by National Movement

LD2904105791 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1005 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Since this morning we have been receiving reports from Gdansk on the hijacking of the Polish ship Wladyslaw Jagiello, apparently off Somalia. The reports have not been confirmed, nor have the hijackers' threats. They apparently demanded a news blackout during negotiations. We asked a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for details:

[Klaczynski] I am Wladyslaw Klaczynski, head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press and Information Department. As has been reported by agencies, and unfortunately it is true, the Polish ship Wladyslaw Lokietek was seized by an organization called the Somalian National Movement. From a telephone conversation we know that there are no casualties among the crew, and that the ship is, for the moment, in one of the ports of the former British Somalia. Currently, Poland is urgently seeking contacts with various organizations. We are also receiving assistance from countries that have insight into the region. We hope that we will be able to give more details around 1400.

De Klerk Reiterates Trip 'Highly Successful'

*MB2704073691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0654 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Apr 27 SAPA—The "propaganda effort" to the effect that the release of political prisoners and release of exiles was not on schedule was without factual basis, President F W de Klerk said at Jan Smuts Airport on Saturday on his return from Europe. Addressing a news conference, he said he would address these "major issues" during his budget vote debate in Parliament.

Mr de Klerk said there was a realisation abroad that, with the proposed standing commission on violence, and the peace conference scheduled for May 24 and 25, the government was putting in an extra effort to end the violence in the country.

He said he would "take up" with ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela reports that the ANC would break off negotiations unless its demands set for May 9 were met.

Flanked by Foreign Minister Pik Botha, who met him at the airport, and Deputy Foreign Minister Leon Wessels, Mr de Klerk reiterated that his visit to England, Denmark and Ireland had been "highly successful".

He and British Prime Minister John Major agreed that a cricket test series between the two countries should be arranged "as soon as possible".

Mr de Klerk said he had not sought or received concrete investment pledges, but that these were "coming in on the plane". South African businessmen reported booms in their business to him. He expected a small inflow of foreign capital.

Denmark and Ireland were prepared to fully cooperate in the European Community to normalise South Africa's relations.

Replying to a question, Mr de Klerk said there would be a "one man one vote" system in the new South Africa, but that certain checks and balances, to prevent the majority suppressing any minority, should be incorporated in the constitution. This would be "in step with true democracy, as is practised throughout the West."

Mandela: Government Conducts 'War' Against ANC

*MB2704160891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1458 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[By Raphael Banda]

[Text] Johannesburg April 27 SAPA—African National Congress [ANC] leader Nelson Mandela accused the South African Government on Saturday of conducting a war against his organisation while seeking a peaceful settlement to the country's political impasse.

The 73-year-old deputy president of the ANC told a miner's union congress in Johannesburg the government was interested in securing a peaceful solution but it "is conducting a war against us".

He also criticised the media, which he said was united with the government "in a massive attack on the ANC" by labelling violence sweeping the country as black-on-black feuding.

He said the media ignored the role played by the hit squads allegedly sponsored by elements in the security establishment.

"At no time has the ANC, trade unions and the SACP [South African Communist Party] faced such a massive attack. The government and the media are united in a massive attack on the ANC," he said.

The ANC leader reiterated his organisation's dismay over the lifting of measures by European Economic Community countries, saying: "the ability of South Africa to attract investment will be enhanced by a political resolution of the conflict."

He charged: "Europe allies itself with white South Africa." It had no consideration for the black majority. "It is regrettable that race plays such a part in decision-making."

Relaxation of economic pressure on Pretoria would compel the De Klerk government to back-roll on its reform process, he added.

Mr Mandela also charged the government had tried to narrow its definition of a political prisoner, leaving thousands of activists still behind bars, only days before its April 30 deadline for their unconditional release. "The total could well be 5,000," he said.

He said the Department of Correctional Services had acknowledged there were about 4,000 people in jail, arrested for unrest-related crimes. He quoted a departmental official as saying they were only prepared to free some 320 prisoners.

"This is a measure of the failure of the government" to honour its agreements with the ANC on removing obstacles to negotiations.

The ANC has said it will stick to its April 30 deadline after which it will reconsider its position on further talks with Pretoria.

The government recently said it would include in its definition of a political prisoner those who committed crimes that caused no deaths.

On the crisis in the mining industry, where thousands of miners are threatened with loss of work, Mr Mandela urged employers to "look beyond job cuts as a solution to the problem".

"The ANC recognises that the mining industry is facing a crisis of unprecedented magnitude. The crisis is of such proportions that a national response is required," he said.

He promised the miners the ANC would "do whatever is necessary to ensure that this crisis is addressed at the highest level".

The NUM [National Union of Mineworkers] has called for a summit with mine owners and the government to discuss the problems facing the industry in the light of the slump in the gold price.

SADF Rejects ANC Assassination Accusations

*MB2704161891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1542 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[By David Greybe]

[Text] Johannesburg Apr 27 SAPA—The South African Defence Force [SADF] on Saturday rejected "with contempt" ANC [African National Congress] allegations of a plan to assassinate the organisation's local leaders between April 30 and May 9.

The ANC statement was in fact an attempt by the organisation "to justify whatever violence they may be planning over the period", the SADF said in a statement released telephonically to SAPA from Cape Town.

"The Defence Force rejects with contempt all these allegations," he [not further identified] said.

"This statement is an attempt by the ANC to create a climate to justify whatever violence they may be planning over the period leading up to their so-called deadline of May 9.

"It also creates a climate for the ANC to again blame all violence on everybody except themselves," the SADF spokesman claimed further.

He added: "The minister of defence (Gen Magnus Malan) also has repeatedly denied the existence of a so-called third force with the intention of perpetrating violence.

"In fact he has challenged the ANC to put facts on the table. This has never materialised."

Part of the strategy against the ANC, according to a statement read by ANC Secretary-General Alfred Nzo at a media conference at the Mandela home in Soweto on Saturday, was the assassination of key regional and branch officials.

ANC Reportedly Hesitant About Army Scale-Down

*MB2704114691 Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR
in English 27 Apr 91 p 11*

[Article by Pat Devereaux: "ANC Applauds and Suspects Army Cutback"]

[Text] The African National Congress [ANC] agrees with the Government's scaling down of the Defence Force, but fears that the intention behind certain cutbacks could be an attempt to sabotage military might in the event of a hostile government coming to power, said top ANC military commander Tokyo Sexwale in an exclusive interview.

"The beefing up of the army is useless. Cutbacks are a political admission (by Government) that the policies of apartheid extending an arm to Namibia, Mozambique and

Angola have failed," said Mr Sexwale, a former Robben Islander and a member of the ANC's regional executive.

But he admitted: "There is the possibility that the army is being wound down prior to the ANC coming into power.

"Historically, when a government is about to collapse they destroy documents and stop certain procedures so that those who take over are made to look like buffoons."

However, he said, if current negotiations were handled carefully there would be no need for fear about the military might of a new government. "Parliament will ultimately make decisions and the future army, including Umkhonto We Sizwe [Spear of the Nation, MK—ANC military wing] members, would pay its respects to the Government of the day."

Asked how the ANC saw a future army he said: "I personally envisage a large army incorporating all the Bantustan armies and even the councillors' jackboot forces in the townships at first. We cannot afford to leave any military force outside—it is part of our commitment to peace.

"But in the long term it will be streamlined into a limited, efficient but professional army. There will be no conscription."

He said military hardware used by the defence force was often "wasted" and should be determined in terms of threat analysis. Instead the billions spent on defence would be ploughed into educational, housing and industrial needs. "We see this country as the Japan of the sub-continent," he said. This would not mean the country would be defenceless.

On the cutbacks in defence research projects he said: "We don't know why they want to cut back here. Perhaps there is uncertainty, research material, blue-prints, people who do not want these things to fall into the 'wrong hands'. [no closing quotation mark as published]

Armcor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] was a headache, he said, but added that it would remain a State-linked corporation.

"We will need foreign currency so producing for export could be profitable. It would therefore be wise to maintain Armcor. We respect the fact that it has produced top quality equipment shown all over the world despite boycotts."

He added that with an ANC government there would be no boycotts and the arms industry would operate in a free market.

ANC To Keep Older Leaders To Avoid Split

*MB2704170091 Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR
in English 27 April 91 p 6*

[Article by Dries van Heerden: "ANC Wants Old Guard To Keep the Peace"]

[Text] Faced with a potentially divisive leadership struggle, the ANC [African National Congress] now seems to have opted for the safe solution: postpone the issue and stick with a geriatric generation at the helm.

It is now almost certain that nothing will come of the expected tussle between Thabo Mbeki and Chris Hani for the deputy-president at the ANC conference in June.

The job will now in all probability go to tried and trusted stalwart Walter Sisulu (78) when the 73-year-old Nelson Mandela succeeds an ailing Oliver Tambo (74) as the movement's president.

And in another attempt to smooth over schisms in ANC, the movement's national executive is to be enlarged from the present 35 to an unwieldy 105. From this group, the new president will appoint a smaller "shadow cabinet".

This enlargement will probably secure the positions of the majority of the present leadership who have in recent months come under increasing criticism from rank-and-file members for their perceived neglect of the ANC's grass roots.

Most of this criticism has been aimed at secretary-general Alfred Nzo (65) and his right-hand man, treasurer Thomas Nkobi (68) who are blamed for the movement's organisational disarray.

Coalition

But an enlarged NEC [National Executive Committee] will also provide for the inclusion of representatives of all the different constituencies making up the ANC "coalition": the exiles, the "islanders", the "internals", the communists, the nationalists, the social democrats, the trade unionists, the comrades, the Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation, MK—ANC military wing] guerillas...

However, in spite of the obvious attempts recently to postpone any elections, the June conference may provide a platform for three men of the "new generation" to stake their claims for the leadership in the 21st century.

Mr Mbeki, Mr Hani and Jacob Zuma, all 48 years old, are charismatic, highly capable leaders who earned their spurs in Umkhonto we Sizwe before moving rapidly through the ranks to occupy positions of influence.

Much has been written about the supposed friction between "super-hawk" Mr Hani and "ultra-dove" Mr Mbeki. But most of it is grossly exaggerated.

In fact "hawks" such as Mr Hani and South African Communist Party boss Joe Slovo were prime movers in the ANC's decision to suspend the armed struggle, while some of the "doves" argued strongly for the ANC's recent ultimatum on violence.

Mr Mbeki and Mr Hani have been close friends for more than four decades. Born less than 10 days apart they grew up in the same area and attended the same high school.

Mr Mbeki, born into a stalwart ANC family, left South Africa at an early age to continue his education at British

universities. He then moved into the ANC organisation, received military training in the Soviet Union and served as ANC representative in Nigeria and private secretary to Mr Tambo before being appointed head of the ANC's department of international affairs.

Arrested

Mr Hani graduated from the University of Fort Hare with a degree in Latin, joining Umkhonto's underground structures in the Western Cape soon afterwards. He was arrested on several occasions and left the country in 1963.

In the late 1960s he led the ANC forces fighting alongside ZAPU [Zimbabwe African People's Union] against Ian Smith's government in Rhodesia. After serving as ANC representative in Lesotho he was recalled to Zambia in 1982 and appointed to a senior position in Umkhonto.

The proverbial "dark horse" in the leadership stakes is the ebullient Mr Zuma. The senior Zulu in the ANC's executive, he joined the movement at an early age, was arrested for MK activities and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment on Robben Island.

He left for exile in 1975, was appointed chief representative in Mozambique and later promoted to chief of security and intelligence.

Since the unbanning of the ANC Mr Zuma has played a pivotal role in the negotiating process, leading most delegations in the technical discussions behind the scenes with government bureaucrats.

Senior government politicians describe him as the most impressive man in the ANC and a person "of absolute integrity".

ANC insiders now say Mr Zuma is more interested in succeeding Mr Nzo as the ANC's secretary-general, because he believes that is where the real power will be wielded in future.

Mr Mbeki is widely regarded as the "voice of moderation" within the ANC leadership. This often goes well at meetings with white businessmen, but is not always popular with his own militant and impatient constituency.

His reputation received a big blow when his proposals on a selective lifting of the sanctions campaign against South Africa was overwhelmingly rejected at the December 16 ANC conference.

However, there is a growing lobby within the ANC who now believe that Mr Mbeki possesses the qualities to lead the ANC into the new South Africa and strike "a historic compromise" with white South Africa and the forces of capitalism.

What counts heavily in his favour is his charisma, his intellect and high media profile. In interviews Mr Mbeki often vehemently protests against claims that he is "soft" on the Government or deviates from ANC policies and demands.

If Mr Mkbeki is a militant trying to harden his moderate image, Mr Hani may be a moderate out to cultivate a militant image.

For most white South Africans he is the epitome of the hard-liners inside the ANC. His militant speeches and fiery sloganeering place him in the eyes of most of the extreme left of ANC thinking.

Committed

However, in private conversations Mr Hani is often at pains to point out that he—and Umkhonto—are fully and wholeheartedly committed to the process of peaceful negotiations on a future South Africa.

But as the second in command of the ANC's army it is also his duty to ensure that "the powder is dry" in case the talks collapse and the ANC may have to resume its armed struggle.

A wild card may be the unpredictable Winnie Mandela. Her bellicose utterances and her involvement in high-profile court cases have won her as many fervent supporters as vociferous opponents.

Her personal dislike for Mr Mbeki is an open secret in ANC circles and she may throw her not inconsiderable influence behind Mr Hani.

But she may even be tempted to aspire to higher office herself—a possibility which has already caused ANC moderates sleepless nights.

Much will depend on tomorrow's election of the leadership of the ANC's Women's League in Kimberley. If elected, Mrs Mandela may well use her position as a platform to further her ambitions.

The decision to enlarge the NEC seems to have breathed new life in the ANC's "old guard". Until recently it was widely predicted that many Lusaka leaders might be purged to make way for men and women involved with the United Democratic Front and Mass Democratic Movement.

Recent months, however, have seen a number of veteran leaders playing a much more visible role in ANC activities—an indication that they have consolidated their positions on the national executive.

Especially noticeable is the return to centre stage of "the president's men"—a small coterie of men deeply loyal to Mr Tambo.

Recent weeks have seen the surprise appointment of a Tambo confidant, Mr Mzwai Piliso, to head the ANC's manpower section, while other Lusaka stalwarts such as Joe Nhlanhla and the very highly regarded Josiah Jele are now prominent at ANC meetings.

Winnie Mandela Loses Leadership Battle

MB2804062491 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Mrs. Winnie Mandela has lost the leadership battle for the ANC's [African National Congress] Women's

League Presidency. Delegates brought out their votes at the national congress of the league in Kimberley yesterday. An executive member of the ANC, Mrs. Getrude Shope, polled 400 votes and Mrs. Mandela 196. Mrs. Mandela's husband and the deputy president of the ANC, Mr. Nelson Mandela, will deliver the closing speech at the conference today.

ANC's Nzo Reiterates 9 May Ultimatum

MB2704132991 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1159 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Johannesburg Apr 27 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] on Saturday dug in its heels politically by reiterating it would not withdraw its May 9 ultimatum until all the conditions were met.

The hardline attitude was put forward by the organisation's Secretary-General Alfred Nzo who described the ultimatum as a "firm demand".

"The ANC regards the government response to the violence as yet another piece of evidence that it is not serious about ending the carnage. There are organised forces both within and outside the state who are bent on sowing fear, death and destruction within African communities.

"In the light of this, the ANC has no option but to reiterate its demands contained in the open letter to the government. The deadline and conditions of May 9 stand," Mr Nzo said.

Speaking at the Mandela house in Soweto, Mr Nzo also added several other conditions to the ultimatum—although he did not put a deadline to them.

"We call for an independent commission of inquiry, with full investigative powers, to urgently be established to look into all violence. Time should also be allocated on radio and television for peace appeals to be made by respected and acknowledged leaders of the oppressed people.

"And a code of conduct be determined, in conjunction with the communities, for all police and security forces," said the organisation's secretary-general.

"The demands we have made are to defend the peace process. It is not the other way around. We want the peace process to succeed."

Again turning to Mr de Klerk's summit on violence scheduled for May 24 and 25, Mr Nzo charged his organisation would not attend as violence could not be discussed at a conference headed by the state president.

"We don't think the matter of violence is a conference issue involving De Klerk. Our view is that we need a broad-based peace conference of the oppressed to resolve the issue."

Nzo Criticizes Inkatha 'Plan' To 'Cripple' ANC*MB2704141291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1311 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Apr 27 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] on Saturday released details of what it called an elaborate plan to cripple the organisation between April 30 and May 9—the deadline it has set for the government to deal with the internecine violence or face a suspension of constitutional negotiations.

Part of this strategy, according to a statement read by the organisation's Secretary-General Alfred Nzo, was the assassination of key regional and branch officials.

"Information gathered indicate there are massive plans to attack communities and assassinate prominent ANC members, especially in the PWV [Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging] region. The offensive is planned for the period leading up to May 9. Among others, this is aimed at scuttling the January 29 ANC/IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] peace accord and undermining the ANC's open letter to the government," Mr Nzo told a media conference at the Mandela house in Soweto.

The ANC secretary-general said his organisation, after lengthy investigations, had discovered that Inkatha Youth Brigade operatives had been specifically deployed in Reef townships since the ANC's public ultimatum to the government.

"This occurs after completion of military training in Natal and the eastern Transvaal. These bases are manned, and the training done, by members of Koevoet [Crowbar—former South-West Africa Police counterinsurgency unit], 101 Battalion and other arms of the SADF [South African Defense Force]. These trained individuals once they arrive in the Transvaal are reportedly provided with jobs through security forces.

"The hostels are divided into regiments, with trained IFP Youth Brigade members allocated to the various hostels to keep control and lead attacks. Both in the PWV area and Natal, a campaign of eliminating ANC members has been set in motion," alleged Mr Nzo.

He also charged his organisation was aware of a massive delivery of weapons to various places in the Witwatersrand. The attacks were scheduled for April 22 but began a day later when unknown assailants attacked the Nhlazane Railway Station.

He further alleged that attacks on ANC targets were scheduled after the funeral of Councillor Khumalo, the Diepmeadow mayor, who was assassinated by unknown killers last week.

"Though the primary aim is to discredit and weaken the African National Congress and imposing the political hegemony of the fascists involved, it is also aimed at proving the racist notion that black people are not yet fit to rule.

"The latter aim is further promoted and propagated by state propaganda from the president downwards, including

institutions of civil society and certain sections of the local and international media," Mr Nzo charged.

To prevent the carnage before May 9, the ANC had alerted the government about the planned attacks and was in the process of briefing its structures.

In addition, the organisation had also initiated discussions with various political groups to assist in halting the impending attacks. This included the Inkatha Freedom Party, according to another ANC official Saki Macozoma.

"The ANC is convinced that lasting peace, and therewith the only prospect for long term prosperity, lies in all South Africans actively working toward the creation and maintenance of peace," the ANC statement read by Mr Nzo said.

Buthelezi Criticizes ANC's 'Lost Generation'*MB2604230291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2147 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] Pietermaritzburg April 26 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] had failed to win any successes in the armed struggle, and had jumped onto the post-1976 bandwagon and turned black children into a lost generation, according to the chief minister of KwaZulu, Mr Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

He said blacks must not fall into the trap of agreeing that the means justified the end when the means entailed an attempt to destroy whatever positives existed in their impoverished situation.

Mr Buthelezi was addressing the conference of school inspectors of the KwaZulu Department of Education and Culture in Ulundi.

He said that the KwaZulu government had been blamed by the ANC "and its friends" for interfering in the struggle, adding that his government had certainly taken exception to the struggle being monopolised by those whose prime strategy was the employment of children as cannon fodder in a war of attrition with the regime.

Mr Buthelezi also criticised teachers "who loaf instead of teaching", using Bantu education as their excuse. Some KwaZulu teachers were playing along with the "anarchists" in the belief that the KwaZulu administration was going to disappear soon, he said.

There was no such thing as "liberation now, education later" and the future of the nation lay in the hand of the teachers, he said.

Buthelezi Condemns Diepmeadow Mayor Assassination*MB2704212891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2058 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Johannesburg April 27 SAPA—The campaign against black town councillors and black civic leaders could have led to the death of Diepmeadow Mayor Moses

Khumalo, Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) President Mangosuthu Buthelezi said on Sunday [28 April].

"We all know that all reasonable people will be justified in thinking that only the campaign against black town councillors and civic leaders could have led to his death," Mr Buthelezi said, in a speech read on his behalf by KwaZulu Education and Culture Minister L.P.H.M. Mtshali, at the mayor's funeral in Soweto.

Mr Khumalo died last week after unidentified gunmen lured him into an ambush and shot and killed him with machine guns in Soweto.

"We must call a halt to the political campaigns, which involve setting up black town councillors, and town councils themselves, as legitimate targets for violent onslaughts."

The IFP had confirmed Mr Khumalo was a former leader of the organisation in Soweto before he was murdered.

Chief Buthelezi described the murder of the mayor as a crime against all mankind.

"It is the kind of crime which the great nations of the world condemn. It is the kind of crime against which the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity, the non-aligned countries of the world and Commonwealth countries would condemn without hesitation."

All South Africans, Mr Buthelezi added, should be shocked and shaken by the report of any death of any man or woman, who was slaughtered for political reasons.

"Kill is not the right word...slaughter is the very word that should be used. We should all be shocked at human slaughter as though human beings could be slaughtered at the altar of political expediency."

The IFP leader said the mayor did not deserve to die "in a hail of bullets in an ambush calculatingly planned and executed. He was a good man and noble in his commitment to serve his people".

He described the late Mr Khumalo as having been committed to the "high moral standards and principles of Inkatha Freedom Party".

Mr Buthelezi added: "He was saying that he would remain committed to these high principles that Inkatha Freedom Party served, even if it meant dying for them. [no closing quotation mark as received]"

Mayor Khumalo Funeral Mourners Kill 5 Squatters

*MB2804173391 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1651 GMT 28 Apr 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Apr 28 SAPA—Mourners returning from a Soweto cemetery attacked a squatter camp and killed five people late on Sunday [27 April] afternoon, bringing to 10 the death toll in attacks connected to the funeral of Diepmeadow mayor, Mr Moses Khumalo, police said.

The regional SAP [South African Police] public relations head, Col Jac de Vries, said buses ferrying mourners from the cemetery stopped alongside the squatter camp and before police could intervene five people were hacked and stabbed to death. Three people were injured.

Police vehicles were behind and in front of the buses and police used birdshot to disperse the attackers before the buses moved off again. No arrests were made, police said.

In further Soweto violence, Col de Vries said a body was found hacked to death at Nancefield hostel and a woman shot in the leg and badly injured on Sunday.

Ciskei Declares Curfew Effective 27 Apr

*MB2604165891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1639 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] Bisho April 26 SAPA—The Ciskei authorities on Friday announced a dusk-to-dawn curfew will be imposed on the magisterial district of Whittlesea on Saturday. The area has also been declared an "affected" district, giving the homeland police wide powers of search and arrest.

In a statement from Bisho, Ciskei's minister of police, Zebelon Makuseni, the curfew [as received] would affect the resident areas of Shiloh, Ekuphumeleni, Sada and Whittlesea, all falling within the Whittlesea magisterial district.

The curfew would operate between 9PM [1900 GMT] and 5AM during which time no persons would be allowed out of their homes unless they had the written permission of the station commander at the Whittlesea Police Station. In addition, no gatherings of more than 12 people would be allowed under any circumstances except for bona fide church services or funerals.

Any person breaking the regulations would be liable for a fine not exceeding R[and]2,000 or a jail term up to six months. The strict regulations will be introduced against the backdrop of a crippling work stoppage by thousands of Ciskeian public servants. Earlier this week, 3,000 public servants were fired after a series of strikes involving up to 15,000 homeland administration employees.

The ANC [African National Congress] and the homeland authority on Wednesday held a closed door meeting to discuss the work stoppage. Both parties said they would issue a joint statement later.

Alexandra Political Violence Leaves 8 Dead

*MB2704192491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1830 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[By Andrew Lefoka]

[Text] Johannesburg April 27 SAPA—Eight people were killed and 24 injured in Alexandra, north of Johannesburg, on Saturday afternoon in what police said was internecine violence between political factions. "One of the dead was shot and killed and the rest were hacked to death," Witwatersrand police official Capt Henriette Bester told

SAPA on Saturday evening. She said the incidents occurred between 6.30AM [0430 GMT] and 3PM.

"Most of the dead were Zulus. The bodies were picked up near 3rd, 6th and London Avenues and other parts of the township. But there were no bodies near the hostels. The injured were treated at the Alexandra Clinic." Capt Bester said more details would be provided later.

Government Frees Imprisoned ANC Activist Spark

*MB2704151491 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Former journalist and ANC [African National Congress] activist Marian Spark has been released from jail. She had been sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment on charges of high treason and arson in 1986. A spokesman for the Department of Correctional Services says Spark has been released in accordance with a new category of indemnity recently announced by Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee.

Spark, who was an active member of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], was jailed for planting limpet mines in various Johannesburg police stations, including John Vorster Square [Station]. Spark had served four and a half years of her sentence.

WEEKLY MAIL Gives 'Apartheid Barometer'

*MB2604164891 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL
in English 26 Apr-2 Nov 91 p 4*

["Apartheid Barometer" column]

[Text]

Indemnity

Less than three percent of about 40,000 exiles have been repatriated to South Africa, members of the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation (NCCR) said at the weekend. Since March, 7,310 African National Congress [ANC] exiles have been flown back, with more than 19,000 still waiting to return and an estimated 20,000 other exiles still abroad. The NCCR said it had advised exiles not to return until a general amnesty was granted.

Meanwhile, the government granted indemnity to another 220 people who had left South Africa without authorisation or being in possession of valid passports or permits.

A debate raged between State President F.W. de Klerk—who said in London the number of political prisoners still to be released in terms of the Pretoria Minute with the ANC was "well below" 200—and human rights organisations who estimated the number still to be freed before the April 30 deadline to be at least 1,146.

The Human Rights Commission said in a special report that, on April 2, 1,361 political prisoners were still being held. Since then a further 119 have been released, and last week the government announced the imminent release of a further 96.

This week Justice and Correctional Services Minister Kobie Coetsee announced that all political offenders not

responsible for death or injury would be indemnified. This would include those who had committed high treason; Internal Security Act offences such as holding illegal gatherings and unlawful possession of arms, ammunition or explosives; trespassing, arson, malicious damage to property and public violence.

Coetsee's acknowledgement that public violence offences were political could overcome discrepancies in estimates of the numbers of people held.

Coetsee also announced the pending release of another 124 political prisoners—44 from Robben Island—bringing to 669 the total number of political prisoners released under government-ANC agreements.

Opening of Training Colleges

Education and Culture Minister Piet Clase announced in parliament this week that white teacher training colleges, technikons [technical schools] and special schools are to be given power to open their doors to all on May 1.

Clase said in parliament recently that there were 3,565 empty places in white teacher training colleges, while 78,000 potential black teachers had been turned away from black training colleges. This week he said one white training college and 46 schools had been closed down last year.

Local Authorities

Local authorities still had to repay more than R[and]2-billion in bridging finance by March 4, Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs Hernus Kriel said in parliament this week.

In reply to a question, Kriel said R1.3-billion was owing in the Transvaal, R687.7-million in the [Orange] Free State, R531.5-million in the Cape [Province] and R116.3-million in Natal.

26 Apr Press Review on Current Issues, Problems

MB2604115591

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Government Should Make Land Issue 'Negotiable'—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 26 April in a page 14 editorial says it seemed earlier this month the government "might be adopting a dangerously intransigent attitude toward land reform. For example, questions of 'restoration' and 'restitution' appeared to have been ruled unworthy even of discussion. Now, as with its rethink on aspects of the VAT [value added tax] Bill, the Government looks likely to acknowledge the validity of opposing views. If it made land a 'negotiable' it would deserve high praise. Sometimes it takes courage to back down."

BUSINESS DAY

Criticism of Hani's Laws if Economics—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 26 April in a page 10 editorial notes ANC military commander Chris Hani's "contempt for the rule of law," by saying Winnie Mandela would be released as soon as the African National Congress (ANC) came to power if she were to be convicted of the criminal charges she is now facing and imprisoned. "Now he has shown equal disdain for the laws of economics by arguing that black people should reverse the economic effects of apartheid through similar methods of redistribution used decades ago by 'the Afrikaners', as he put it." "Hani has returned to the idea of nationalising the heights of the economy—a view to which the rest of his organisation seems increasingly less attached. The only consolation is that it is perhaps unreasonable to expect a military functionary to understand economics."

NEW NATION

'Cross Leadership' Weakens Democratic Movement—Johannesburg NEW NATION in English for 26 April-2 May in its page 6 editorial talks about the "cross leadership" that has become a "feature" of the democratic movement. "This tendency, where leaders wear more than one hat, has severely weakened some formations within the movement and resulted in an uneven political development of our organisations." The "time has come" for "a clear division of leadership and definition of roles." "The independence of organisations within the movement is not a contradiction, nor is it hostile to the national political leadership, but the very essence of building bulwarks against totalitarianism."

THE WEEKLY MAIL

Cosatu Constitutional Demands Offer Surer Democracy—Steven Friedman writes in his "Worm's Eye" column on page 13 of Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English for 26 April-2 May on the constitutional demands of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), saying: "In the short term, the demands merely add another voice to the ANC's call for a constituent assembly, interim government and 'patriotic front'. But, in the longer term, they may offer a surer guarantee of democracy than any we've had so far." Cosatu says the constitution must recognize unions' rights to "organise, strike and picket." Also, the "new order must recognise union independence from the state and political parties as well as 'the bosses'." The constitution must also ensure a majority government is 'accountable'; the media must not be controlled by the state, the rights of people must be protected by a constitutional court, the president's term of office must be limited and people must have the right to demand a referendum to overturn and make laws. The government must be prevented from curtailing workers' rights 'even in a State of Emergency'." "It is not certain that the approach which the demands imply will win majority support among workers, let alone other groups. But if it does, workers will enter the new order determined to insist on rights, not favours. A new government may then face expectations it can meet."

Criticism of Abuse of People's Courts—"The people's courts is what happens when untrained, ill-qualified people try to take over the administration of the country," declares a page 14 editorial. "Justice irregularly applied is not justice. Far from protecting the common man, many of these people's courts have only added to the burden of life in the townships. In its rhetoric on defence units, the ANC should give careful thought to how a good idea, formulated with the best will in the world, can end up abused."

De Klerk's Commitment To Change 'Dishonest'—"Sorry, President de Klerk, you're wrong: apartheid will not be dead by June," states a second editorial on the same page. Unless De Klerk shows a commitment to change "that can be felt on the ground by ordinary South Africans as well as by foreign leaders in distant capitals, his best-known phrase—the New South Africa—might become yet another dishonest smokescreen for the survival of oppression."

27 Apr Press Review

MB2704154091

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Government Should Not Compromise on Multiparty Conference—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English writes in a page 6 editorial on 24 April: "We think the ANC [African National Congress] is expecting too much. It's one thing to accommodate its wishes on the release of political prisoners, the return of exiles and other matters raised by the ANC as obstacles to the negotiation of a new South Africa. It is quite another to expect the government to abdicate and virtually hand the country over to the ANC." "That is why it is necessary for Mr de Klerk to spread the gospel abroad of the new South Africa that is about to dawn in a manner determined by him and his government—and that means negotiation of a constitution at a conference of all interested parties." "On no account should the government compromise, for if it does, it will be virtually handing South Africa over to the ANC on a plate."

De Klerk Scores 'Great Success' on London Visit—"State President de Klerk has scored a great success in London, putting over his message to bankers, financiers and businessmen that he is dismantling apartheid and the time has come to invest in this country and the new South Africa that lies ahead," states THE CITIZEN on 25 April in a page 6 editorial. "We have said it often enough that the solution to our problems is at home, but Mr de Klerk has become the supersalesman of his reforms abroad, and his visit to London has been another triumph for him."

CAPE TIMES

Disrupted Township Education 'Appalling Legacy'—"The continuing disruption in township schools across the country presents a painful spectacle—and a warning that the alienated black youth have become a destabilising force in the country to an extent that is disquieting," writes Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 22 April in a page

6 editorial. "Sadly, it seems as if the school rebellion of the late 1970s and early 1980s—entrenched at the time by police over-reaction—has succeeded in perpetuating itself, developing a powerful dynamism among succeeding generations of township youth." Therefore, "the malaise in black education is swelling the ranks of uneducated, unemployable youth. Whatever success is achieved in constitutional negotiation and economic reconstruction, an appalling legacy will remain."

TIMES OF NAMIBIA

Newspaper Rejects Land Nationalization—Windhoek TIMES OF NAMIBIA in English on 20 April in a page 2 editorial discusses land reform in Namibia and notes "The Times recognises that land-ownership (or, rather, land use) is disproportionate, and that measures have to be put into motion to rectify it. But The Times cannot see nationalisation of profitable units as the answer, neither will we accept that nationalisation can restore communal land use. Land can only constitutionally be alienated by paying fair compensation. Let us hope that the government does not have Mugabe's trick up its sleeve."

Human Rights Issue Remains Relevant—TIMES OF NAMIBIA on 24 April in a page 2 editorial reviews the issue of the South-West African People's Organization's (SWAPO) detainees and writes "All Namibians, including those who hopefully still languish in dungeons instead of being buried in unmarked graves, have, in accordance with our Constitution, the right to live and the right to a fair trial in a competent court of justice. Should we keep closing our eyes to these constitutional ideals we designed ourselves, at the expense of the democratic nature of our Constitution? But there is also a lesson here for the combined opposition, that they dared not to have used the issued for electioneering purposes only. If we want to keep a hard-gained democracy alive, none of us dare to forget those who are still unaccounted for."

WINDHOEK OBSERVER

SWAPO's Democratic Nature in Question—"Congratulations to Swapo on their 31st birthday yesterday. It also comes as quite a pleasant surprise that the ruling party is to hold its first congress in many years, from December 6 to 8," states Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English on 20 April in an editorial on page 1.04. "The absence of any congress since, has placed a question mark over the acclaimed 'democratic' nature of the organization." "Furthermore, all the pre-election promises and liberation talk to thousands of young guerrillas who died for the cause of the Namibian people, have created massive expectations, most of which are unlikely to materialise." Will this government, like many liberation

movements in Africa, also become "oppressive and dictatorial?" "The eyes of the world are on us, to see if Namibia can set a new precedent for African countries."

* Status of Portuguese Community Viewed

91AF0923A Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese
22 Mar 91 p 10

[Article by Pedro Vieira]

[Text] "The Portuguese are poorly integrated, disliked, and have a bad reputation among large portions of South African society."

This assertion, which tears down some lofty notions of the Portuguese community in South Africa, is not the brain-child of any analyst or leader at a time of political and social upheaval. Rather, it is contained in a sociological study of our fellow countrymen who are immigrants in that country, entitled "Portuguese in South Africa/Political Portrait of an Emigrant Community."

The author of the study, prepared with the assistance of the European Community and the CIDAC (Amilcar Cabral Information and Documentation Center), is Joao Gomes Cravinho, aged 26, a graduate of the London School of Economics.

He works part-time at the CIDAC, and is busy translating a play by Shakespeare, "The Taming of the Shrew," for Graca Lobo. He is the son of a British mother and the Socialist deputy and vice president of the European Parliament, Joao Cravinho.

J.G. Cravinho claims: "This work is politically motivated. I was amazed that there was no public opinion on South Africa in Portugal. This gave me the idea that some action must be taken to create awareness." He had the opportunity to witness, "on the spot," the shock brought on the Portuguese community by the process of changes initiated with the unconditional release of the ANC's (African National Congress) historic leader.

According to a poll taken last year, cited by J.G. Cravinho, "only 6.7 percent of the Portuguese community considered the South African Government's racist policy wrong, and only 3.7 percent expressed approval of the introduction of elections with universal suffrage." This reveals their detachment with regard to the possibility or necessity of political changes.

Concurrently with this conformist position there comes (or may come) another, that of political abstention, which is widely cultivated by the community's leaders, according to J.G. Cravinho.

He claims: "The message is quite clear. The Portuguese community is supposed to try to keep total silence concerning political issues. The exception during election campaigns, when it is supposed to lend discreet support to the National Party (the main political force of the white minority in power for many years)."

Jobs Threatened

Despite this calculated indifference, the Portuguese community has, in general, failed to win the favor of the blacks, or even the whites. According to J.G. Cravinho, "Almost without exception, the South African political leaders, seeking votes or financial aid, have on propitious occasions issued statements praising the Portuguese community." Moreover, after that movement's legalization, prominent ANC leaders, specifically, Nelson Mandela, "when publicly requested, voiced a positive opinion of the Portuguese community." Nevertheless, when one listens closely to the various South African population groups, the reality is quite different.

For example, a 1977 poll, the main data from which were transcribed by J.G. Cravinho in his study, discloses that the Portuguese are almost always the least desired neighbors, compared with the Italians, British, Dutch, Germans, and Greeks. Furthermore, there is a large percentage of individuals (ranging between 21.5 and 40.3 percent, depending on sex and family income) who would like to ban the entry of any more Portuguese immigrants. This index rises as high as 45.7 percent when those queried are Afrikaans-speaking males.

As for the blacks, the political abstention of the majority of Portuguese has been interpreted as a "sign of tacit support for the regime." Moreover, "The blacks, especially in urban areas, which are precisely where most of the Portuguese reside, are highly politicized. And the Portuguese community is perhaps the only example of a community that has done nothing to fight apartheid."

As an indication of the blacks' attitude, J.G. Cravinho cites an article by the distinguished scholar and professor at Witwatersrand University, Es'kia Phalele.

"They view the Portuguese as immigrants in this country. They are more racist than the worst of the white colonialists (...). The Portuguese youth have established a subculture that entertains itself with the organized violence of its gangs." Es'kia Phalele wrote the foregoing in an article published in 1988, in the magazine *TRIBUTE*. It was met with protest by only a small group of Portuguese.

According to J.G. Cravinho, "The article quoted certainly contains a large amount of visceral hatred, and is irrational," but its significance "lies in the fact that it was written by the one who wrote it, and was published where it was."

The Portuguese community in South Africa has two main components: one, of Madeiran origin, which emigrated out of economic necessity; and another, comprised of former residents of Mozambique. The latter retain a traumatic memory of the decolonization process, and tend to view the ANC as an equivalent of the FRELIMO [Mozambique Liberation Front] or the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola].

J. G. Cravinho notes that Lisbon has always been aligned with the official story that everything was going extremely well for the Portuguese community. The "commanders" claimed for themselves the role of political mediators, decisively influencing the depiction of the community's needs and interests. The only Portuguese politician with a direct, constant relationship, through visits and the publication of articles in the *JOHANNESBURG TIMES*, is Alberto Joao Jardim, president of the regional government of Madeira. According to J.G. Cravinho, "He proclaimed his sympathy for the National Party, loud and clear, long before any political openness."

Ambassador Jose Cutileiro, however, has introduced a different type of intervention, "assuming a leadership role in preparing the community for a new era."

As for the near future, he thinks that, "A state of total instability will prompt a massive return, but if this happens, it will be done reluctantly."

In any event, the author of the political portrait of the Portuguese community in South Africa is of the opinion that, "There are some who have a future in that country, and some who do not. Those who do not are the rather large group of Portuguese who are not English-speaking; especially women without advanced occupational training, whose jobs will be threatened by the massive labor mobility. There are blacks integrated into the system who have better opportunities."

Angola**Accord With UNITA To Be Initialed 30 Apr***LD2904103191 Lisbon International Service
in Portuguese 0905 GMT 29 Apr 91*

[Text] The Angolan peace accords are expected to be initialed tomorrow in Estoril by the heads of the Luanda and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] delegations. The cease-fire agreement proper will be formally signed by Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi here in Lisbon, on a date yet to be set, in the presence of Prime Minister Cavaco Silva, the U.S. secretary of state, the Soviet foreign minister, and a personal representative of the UN secretary general.

The elections date seems to be the only point of contention still on the negotiating table. On Friday UNITA reiterated its view that the elections should be held in 1992 before the rainy season while the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] maintains that they should be held in November. The Portuguese mediators had proposed any time between 1 September and 30 November 1992. Today they are expected to propose a compromise solution such as October of next year.

At any rate, in the wake of the weekend meeting in London between Jeremias Chitunda, head of the UNITA delegation, and Jonas Savimbi—which was also attended by Herman Cohen, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs,—the problem of the elections date is expected to be surmounted today.

UNITA Officer: Cease-Fire Likely in May*LD2704031191 Lisbon Domestic Service
in Portuguese 2300 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Excerpts] An agreement is likely between the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola before the end of the month. UNITA accepts Portugal as a possible venue for the signing of the cease-fire agreement, as confirmed this evening by General Alicerces Mango in an interview with our reporter Piedade Coelho:

[Begin recording] [Mango] The cease-fire will be signed when the two delegations in Bicesse reach an agreement, and they will reach an agreement next week. According to the documents we have received with the proposals made by the mediators and the observers, the cease-fire is likely to be signed in May.

[Coelho] Where?

[Mango] That depends. If we are told Portugal, we will not argue against it. [passage omitted]

Naturally, there are some very sensitive issues at stake at the talks, and we must not leave a single detail unclarified, because we do not want a lame agreement; we do not want another Alvor or another Gbadolite.

[Coelho] General, does UNITA make a point of having the legislative and presidential elections held simultaneously?

[Mango] Not at all; in fact, it was the mediators and the observers that made such a proposal, which UNITA supported without the slightest reservation.

[Coelho] Has a definite date been set for the cease-fire and the elections?

[Mango] There is no definite date for the cease-fire nor for the elections. What we have is a month proposed for the cease-fire, which is the month of May, to which we have all agreed unreservedly, and there is a proposed period for holding elections in Angola. Regarding this, UNITA regards September 1992 as the right month for the elections insofar as October and November are months with heavy rainfall. The peasants, the majority of the Angolan people, will be worried about their crops. September, the last month of the dry season in Angola, would be the most appropriate time for the elections.

[Coelho] At present, three days from the end of the month, what details still remain to be settled for the agreement to be initialed?

[Mango] I believe you have heard that the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola has agreed to all the points of detail of UNITA's demands, such as the right, in a normal society, to engage in political activity. There was also a certain difference in outlooks with regard to the joint political and military commission. This we managed to resolve yesterday. Today we have been discussing the question of the armed forces. It is not possible to create an Angolan Armed Forces in a short period of time. We must create an embryo in such a way as to enable the process to continue after the elections. The MPLA proposed a higher number than UNITA, but UNITA is not making an issue of it. What we want is to have the rules of the game fully defined. We have no problems at all. What we want is things on a fifty-fifty basis. [end recording]

Police Only Armed Force During Transition*LD2604211391 Lisbon Domestic Service
in Portuguese 2000 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] The Angolan police will be the only armed force in the country during the transition period before the elections. The MPLA and UNITA armies will be disarmed and [passage indistinct]. Mota Lopes, our correspondent covering the Angolan peace talks in Estoril, reports:

[Lopes] [Words indistinct] having heard exclusively from a source at the talks, I am in a position to say that the ending of hostilities will be signed in mid-May by Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi, in a country yet to be chosen, with Portugal and Cape Verde currently appearing the most likely venues. Fifteen days after that, and no later than 31 May, the cease-fire will come into effect, and the UNITA and MPLA forces will be confined to already chosen rallying points. There will be 27 such places for the government troops and 23 for Jonas Savimbi's men. These rallying places, as required, will be away from urban centers, and the troops confined there will be disarmed [word indistinct].

This process will come under the control of the Mixed Supervisory and Verification Commission, of which the United Nations will be a full member, with an as yet unspecified number of troops, together with Portugal, the United States, and the USSR.

Luanda: 'Few Things' Agreed Upon

*MB2604211291 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1920 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Report from Lisbon by correspondent Andeiro Joao]

[Excerpt] Today is the 22d day since the start of the Estoril peace conference. We can say that many things have already been discussed. Many issues have been placed on the table by both sides. It seems, however, as if very few things have been definitely agreed upon. The form and place for the signing of the documents under discussion are yet to be defined. No definite agreement has yet been reached on the electoral period. The cease-fire modalities, which a few days ago we thought had already been defined, are once again on the negotiating table. This is equally the case with the establishment of a single army and the role of the police in the transitional phase—that is, between the cease-fire and the elections.

It is clear, however, that issues such as the definition of the functions and responsibility of the political and military joint commission, and UNITA's rights after the cease-fire, have already been agreed upon. This was revealed by Durao Barroso, Portuguese secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation. [passage omitted]

UNITA Denies Effort To Block Talks

*MB2604224291 (Clandestine) KUP in English
to Southern and Central Africa 1940 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Unattributed commentary: "Negotiations Have To Be Handled Seriously and Honestly"]

[Text] [No dateline as received]—Negotiations aimed at finding a just and lasting solution to the 16-year-old Angolan conflict currently underway in Portugal between UNITA and the MPLA are at a crucial and decisive stage; therefore, it is imperative that the parties involved in the negotiations process do so with all seriousness, frankness and goodwill because what is at stake is the destiny of the Angolan people and their desire to urgently build a truly free, democratic and just society resulting from free and fair and internationally monitored elections.

The Angolan people's will to be free is clearly manifested in UNITA which, since its foundation [words indistinct] has always defended the profound interests and aspirations of the Angolan people. For the past 16 years, only UNITA has been in the fore-front of the struggle for freedom and democracy in Angola, defending a negotiated solution as the only way of ensuring that the Angolan people choose their legitimate representatives through a democratic vote and bring an end to the anachronistic, corrupt, unpopular and grossly inefficient rule by the Luanda regime.

It is, therefore, not surprising, but totally ridiculous and unacceptable when the MPLA regime accuses [words indistinct] blocking the current peace talks in Portugal. The truth of the matter is that UNITA has not rejected the proposal put forward by the mediators and such reports are merely part of the Luanda regime's disinformation campaign aimed at deceiving national and international public opinion and eventually torpedo the whole process. On the country, UNITA continues to be the main catalyst in the peace talks and the head of its negotiations team, Vice-President Jeremias Chitunda, presented the mediators' suggestions aimed at overcoming the difficulties which the upon his return from consultations in Jamba, with consultations in Jamba, with constructive peace process faced previously. [sentence as received]

Although the peace talks between UNITA and the MPLA have been going on for a year now, this is the first time that the two delegations have been seriously holding talks, including bilateral meetings centering on a whole range of issues related to the peace process. The 15 points attributed to UNITA as being the blocking factors in the negotiations is more speculation hatched by the Luanda regime in an attempt to confuse national and international public opinion.

It is also not true that the American Administration has been pressuring UNITA to adopt any position in relation to the issues under debate and the presence of the United States assistant secretary of state for African Affairs, Herman Cohen, at Estoril is simply to enable him [words indistinct] follow the course of developments of the negotiations and render valid contributions to help find the best solution.

In the light of such manoeuvres by the unpopular and illegal Luanda regime, the Angolan people and UNITA militants should double their vigilance particularly now that victory is in sight. We should all insist on a specific date for the holding of free, fair and internationally monitored elections in our country which will usher in a respectable government of the people, for the people and by the [words indistinct] that of UNITA. Let us all vote for our beloved President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi as Angola's first legitimate president because he is our only choice and the guarantee of genuine freedom, democracy, justice and prosperity for every Angolan and for our beautiful country, Angola.

Victory is on our side and we should not let last-minute manoeuvres by the enemies of peace, freedom and democracy to grab it from our hands. Time for such cheap manoeuvres is over.

MPLA Second Party Congress Continues Work

Debates Death Sentence, Aid to Veterans

*MB2604205391 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] The MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party Second Special Congress has entered its second phase today aimed at approving the

documents debated by the different commissions. Silva Junior has further details from the Palace of Congresses:

[Begin Junior recording] This afternoon's session of the MPLA-Labor Party Second Special Congress approved the new party program with amendments. The new party program is divided into different chapters that deal with different issues such as the multiparty political system; economic, social, and cultural policy; and national defense, among other things.

With regard to this document, the delegates discussed the abolition of the death sentence and assistance to war veterans. On the abolition of the death sentence, delegate Henrique Fontes Onambwe had this to say:

[Onambwe] I call your attention to changes proposed on page eight by the commission—the last paragraph of the original text—dealing with fundamental human rights. The proposed change deals with the abolition of the death sentence [words indistinct] only in times of peace. The following phrase was added: without jeopardizing the laws [words indistinct]. I think that this proposal completely changes the initial text. I would even say that it is a dangerous proposal. Accordingly, we as a party support the original text. I fully agree with it as it is.

Following this statement and others that followed, the congress decided to support the abolition of the death sentence in accordance with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As a matter of fact, this is one of the demands of the socialist [words indistinct] which the MPLA wants to join.

Another issue discussed by delegates was, as we pointed out earlier, assistance rendered to war veterans. Delegate Angelo Alfredo had this to say:

[Alfredo] Up to now, no major efforts have been made to assist war veterans. For different reasons, attention was directed to other issues. War veterans have never been able to receive adequate attention as is the case with Algeria and other countries. This issue has now come up for discussion for many reasons. Tomorrow the situation may become more complex than today. Today we are the first republic; tomorrow a second republic will emerge. Today, we are the war veterans. For different reasons, however, other war veterans may emerge tomorrow, and there will be no legal instrument to deal with this situation. Accordingly, I think it would be proper for us to approve a special law, a more complete law, at this stage. [end recording]

Debates Electoral Law

*MB2704200191 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Report from the 10 December Palace Hall in Luanda]

[Text] The MPLA-Labor Party Second Special Congress is still being held behind closed doors in Luanda. There are indications that the participants have agreed to remain tight-lipped, because almost nothing has been disclosed about the congress.

Preliminary debates on the electoral law are under way.

Initial reports said that the Central Committee would be increased from 90 to 130 members. We do not know, however, whether agreement has been reached on this issue. Several delegates to the congress have proposed that the Central Committee should be increased to between 150 and 170 members. This has resulted in lengthy debates because a consensus has to be reached on specific Central Committee membership.

We believe that the initial proposal to increase the MPLA Central Committee to 130 members is directly linked to a hypothetical removal of military members from the Central Committee in the foreseeable future. Should this occur, the Central Committee will have 120 [figure as heard] members once the depoliticization of the armed forces is completed. At present [words indistinct] an increase to between 150 and 170 members to the new Central Committee, as well as the possible removal of military members. This could permit the return of several veterans to the Central Committee who were removed from that party organ at its last congress.

We do not believe that this will happen, however. Such a proposal would cause [words indistinct] because candidates would have to be found at the last minute. Our view is that the congress will reach a consensus on the proposal to increase the Central Committee to 130 members.

Meanwhile, we have learned that the 50 candidates for the Central Committee include former FNLA [Angola National Liberation Front] members Johnny Pinock Eduardo and Paulo Tuba; Deputy Planning Minister Manuel Carneiro; State Secretary for Housing Vitoriano Nicolau; Engineer (Albina Assis Luis Ingles), wife of the legendary commander (Muchi Imortal); author Raul David; and Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura.

A new MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee will be elected once the debates under way are completed.

The closing session of the MPLA-Labor Party Second Special Congress will begin at 1000 tomorrow.

Secretary General Post Opposed

*MB2704205491 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
1945 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Luanda, 26 April (ANGOP)—This morning's plenary session of the MPLA-Labor Party Second Special Congress adjourned the debates centered around the figure and role of the proposed post of secretary general.

On Thursday [26 April] the commission responsible for the statutes proposed the creation of the post of secretary general in addition to that of party chairman. The secretary general would replace the Political Bureau's executive secretary.

The secretary general would have wider responsibilities than the executive secretary and would operate directly under the party chairman. The secretary general would also replace the party's chairman in his absence.

A number of delegates opposed the powers given to the secretary general, and this led to the adjournment of this morning's plenary session. Those members said that under the present proposals the secretary general, to be elected by the Central Committee, would have the same powers as the party chairman.

Among the opponents of the proposal was former Political Bureau member Henrique dos Santos Onambwe, who was once minister of industry. He said that the proposal was inopportune.

Onambwe, regarded as a historic MPLA member, said: I am under the impression that should the proposal be approved, the chairman would be a figurehead.

In view of the impasse, and in order not to waste time, Chairman Jose Eduardo dos Santos decided that the issue should be further evaluated by the relevant commission.

As far as one can see, the idea of creating the post of secretary general went beyond the expectations of the party leadership. In fact, the proposal appears to be the responsibility of the delegates forming part of the commission responsible for the statutes.

Depoliticization of Army Discussed

*MB2704211691 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
1955 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Luanda, 26 April (ANGOP)—The MPLA-Labor Party will decide which of its military members should resign from the Army within the framework of the depoliticization of the armed forces.

This was stated to ANGOP on 25 April by Joao Lourenco, a member of the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau.

The member of the ruling party said: "This decision still needs to be made."

He added that although one can take into consideration "the wishes of each one of us who is in this situation, the party also has its views on each of its cadres."

He said that one should not take into account personal interests alone but collective interests as well, and that it is often difficult to balance the two.

Turning to his personal choice, Joao Lourenco said that everything will depend on the balance between his wishes and those of the party leadership.

The depoliticization of the armed forces is a relevant topic on the agenda of the congress, which began on 24 April and is scheduled to end on 27 April [date as received].

Central Committee Membership Debated

*MB2804090991 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0700 GMT 28 Apr 91*

[Text] A counterproposal on expanding the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee to 150 or 160 members from the expected 120 extended the electoral process of the Second Special Congress beyond the allotted time.

The names of the members of the new MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee are to be made public within the next few hours. Silva Junior, one of the Radio Angola reporters at the Palace of the Congresses, reports:

[Begin Junior recording] We think that the agreement in principle to expand the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee must be directly connected with the probable removal of those members currently serving in the Angolan Armed Forces. This is likely to happen in the near future.

Should this be the case, the Central Committee would definitely have 120 members after the process of depoliticization within the armed forces. The Central Committee currently has some 10 members in the Angolan Armed Forces.

A possible Central Committee expansion to 150 or 160 members, plus the removal of those serving the Angolan Army, might allow some veteran members to return after being dropped during the last congress. We do not view that as a likely possibility, however. We predict that the MPLA-Labor Party Second Special Congress will support the proposed 130-member Central Committee.

Meanwhile, we have learned that Johnny Pinnock Eduardo and Paulo Tuba, both former FNLA [National Front for the Liberation of Angola] members; Manuel Carneiro, deputy planning minister; Vitoriano Nicolau, state secretary for Housing; Engineer Albino Assis; Luis Ingles; Raul David, the writer; and Venancio de Moura, deputy foreign affairs minister, are among the names of the initial 50 candidates for MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee membership. [end recording]

130-Member Central Committee Approved

*MB2804094891 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0903 GMT 28 Apr 91*

[Interview with Bento Bento, spokesman for the MPLA-Labor Party's Second Special Congress, by unidentified Radio Angola reporter in Luanda on 28 April—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Good morning. The Congress will end today but, contrary to what many people may think, it will not be this morning, right?

[Bento] Good morning. I would like to inform you that [words indistinct] Central Committee [words indistinct] the second special congress is expected to close at [words indistinct] as initially expected.

[Reporter] So the congress will not close until this afternoon. Is there anything special happening this morning, or at least up to 1600?

[Bento] No. The delegates are following a recreational program. The electoral commission had to work until the early hours of this morning and we think that the congress will be ready to learn the outcome of the electoral process [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Is there much to say about the work done last night?

[Bento] No [words indistinct] during the morning with the approval of the congress' final resolutions [words indistinct] this applies to those guests who were present when the final resolutions were approved. After 1500 yesterday afternoon, delegates to the congress began a plenary session behind closed doors to discuss Central Committee membership candidacies and the process [words indistinct] the main issue under discussion was (?the number of members needed) to fill the Central Committee's ranks. The proposal of the Central Commission was approved. The delegates approved it. The Central Committee will therefore have up to 130 members.

Congress Resolutions Detailed

*MB2904084891 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 28 Apr 91*

[Text] The MPLA Labor Party Second Special Congress ended in Luanda this evening with the election of a new 130-member Central Committee. Today's session was marked by an emotional message and songs from OMA [Organization of Angolan Women], appealing to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the MPLA-Labor Party, and government to attain peace as soon as possible.

The new Central Committee includes historic figures like Gabriel Leita, Luisa Ingles, and Venancio de Moura, the latter being the most widely applauded by the delegates.

The second special congress approved with amendments the statutes of the MPLA-Labor Party. This document establishes the basic structures, norms of party activities, and principles for the management of the party's organization and leadership. The congress also decided to create the post of general secretary in addition to the post of party chairman. The new post, to be elected by the Central Committee, replaces the post of executive secretary. The Central Committee will define the responsibilities of the secretary general.

The congress decided to retain the name MPLA-Labor Party, and to adopt the acronym MPLA. Moreover, the congress reiterated the democratic, progressive, independent, national, and popular nature of the party whose members include all social classes united by their patriotism and loyalty to the ideals of labor, peace, freedom, solidarity, and social justice.

The congress approved with alterations the MPLA-Labor Party program as a blueprint for the construction of a new society based on the principles of democratic socialism. The congress recommended that all party members carry out a widespread information and mobilization campaign among all Angolans with a view to strengthening the party, and to (?promote) a true democratic state of law.

The second special congress approved with alterations the general principles for the party's strategy under a multiparty system, singling out the following fundamental goals:

To mobilize all active Angolans regardless of their membership in opposition movements in order to gain and consolidate peace; to ensure, through government, the leadership, organization, and management of the country's socioeconomic life during the period preceding elections; to ensure the continuation, stability, and operation of institutions until the holding of general elections; and to guarantee law and order through the established legal agencies in order to prevent any type of disturbances and social unrest.

Dos Santos Delivers Closing Speech

*MB2904072191 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1902 GMT 28 Apr 91*

[Speech by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to the closing session of the MPLA-Labor Party Second Special Congress at the 10 December Palace in Luanda on 28 April—recorded]

[Text] Comrade delegates, after three days of intensive efforts characterized by the rich and lively debate of our working agenda and after the approval of the congress' final documents, I am here today to announce the closing of this important event.

Before I do so, however, I would like to make some remarks for a few minutes about very current issues which interest and perhaps concern all the people here, our party members, as well as the Angolan people in general. I would like to discuss the peace process, multiparty elections, the government's plan of action, corruption, our country's economic and social reconstruction, and so on.

The Angolan people want peace. Under the leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party, the Angolan people have never ceased to fight for peace. All the Angolan people are aware that it is not possible to resolve our people's fundamental problems without peace.

There are people, however, who think that this peace can best be achieved by military means and through more sacrifice because they believe our rivals are untrustworthy. Other people think that it is better to find a political solution.

We are trying to find a solution that during the current domestic and international situation would best safeguard our people's interests. We have changed our political and economic system. We have broken new ground and created conditions to allow the participation of other political forces, as well as to allow different economic and social agents to participate in the affairs of the nation.

We are also negotiating with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] an agreement to end the armed conflict. This agreement provides, among other things, for the establishment of a single, depoliticized army and the holding of multiparty elections. We are making all necessary efforts to reach an agreement. If a cease-fire agreement is signed and comes into effect, peace and the process of pacification will begin in this country. This pacification process will not be simple. The country is vast

and the war has been going on for many years. It has caused deep traumas and wounds among all our families. What is more, we should not underestimate the influence of external factors.

In order to succeed, we have to work (?very hard), with creativity, good faith, and vigilance. What is more, the pacification process must assume a national identity, one that covers the country as a whole. It must go beyond the scope of the government-UNITA negotiations so as to encompass other Angolans.

Our feeling was that our rivals would also act in good faith in order successively to consolidate confidence and establish peace in the country. All the same, we have devoted our attention to establishing agreements and monitoring instruments and guarantees so as to eliminate violations and other risks.

Our rivals are frequently using the South African tactic—always trying to back away from promises. Accordingly, there is a need for heightened vigilance. All the same, we must try to make them fulfill their pledges.

Side by side with the process of pacification and the establishment of a single army or a national army will be a period of preparations for general elections. This will imply the registration of voters and the drafting of a new electoral law. All recognized parties will take part in the elections. These elections are aimed at democratically electing new deputies to the People's Assembly and electing the president of the Republic. The People's Assembly and the president of the Republic are institutions that exercise political power, state power, on behalf of the people. Accordingly, through elections the Angolan people shall decide on what party or parties to entrust with our country's state power.

In this context, our party will have to assume its responsibilities fully. It will have to involve itself in the political and party struggle to convince the people to accept its program of action. This struggle will be different from the one we now face. We will have to present our views, ideas, programs, and, sometimes, political and social actions side-by-side with other parties. In this struggle the people will undoubtedly support the party that is best able to present its views.

We shall enter a phase of competition in which the quality of work, the potential for work, and mobilization work by activists, cadres, and party leaders will be vital. We must abandon bureaucratic methods of party work. We must adopt political methods which emphasize work for the masses—in other words, to work for the benefit of the masses. We must center our political work in residential areas, wards, communes, villages, and so on.

This means that the statutes and programs that we have approved here must be urgently implemented based on a coherent plan so as to reinvigorate the party grass-roots organizations and attract the interest of the popular masses.

All party members must understand the party's policy. It must be explained to all citizens. Information on party work and party decisions and guidelines must circulate rapidly. It must be viewed as an important working instrument of party members, grass roots organizations, and committees. It must equally be viewed as a guiding instrument. Accordingly, we must urgently review and improve at all levels the internal system of information, and we must speed up the establishment of a party information organ.

I am absolutely convinced that with our militants' dynamism, our party apparatus will rapidly end bureaucratism and adapt itself to the new phase of struggle with the certainty of achieving final victory. It is only with peace and stability that our country can devote itself to national reconstruction in a normal manner.

All serious attempts to carry out those tasks since the proclamation of our independence have not achieved the desired goals due to the war of aggression and permanent destabilization waged by South Africa against our people.

Despite the enormous hardships that have been endured, the country is today more devastated than in 1975. The partial reconstruction program for Cunene, Cuando Cubango, and Huila Provinces, which was drafted with the help of the UN Development Program, has been estimated at more than \$500 million. Angola's postwar reconstruction program, which is being drafted with the assistance of international agencies, will be even more expensive.

The MPLA was responsible for building the state, for protecting our independence, and for ruling the country amid armed aggression and destruction caused by a ferocious war. The MPLA has neither caused nor initiated this state of affairs. The government waged war in defense of the people. Therefore, it was unable to give its full attention to the running of the country.

There are many shortcomings and hardships afflicting the daily lives of all of our people. There is a great deal of criticism, and the delegates to the congress expressed their deep concern about the present situation. I would like to state for the record that I am not aware of any country which has been at war for 30 years like ours, and which has not been faced by these shortcomings and hardships, or even more serious problems.

Due to the war, our fields are no longer productive. There has been a sharp decline in the movement of people and property. Angolan raw materials have not been supplied to food and light industries. Industrial production has dropped drastically. Moreover, there has been an increase in army personnel. Likewise, military expenditure and salaries for the armed forces and other sectors have increased. This did not, however, imply an increase in productivity.

In view of the widespread destruction of socioeconomic infrastructures, namely roads, bridges, and water and electricity systems, there has been a sharp increase in the state's direct and indirect expenditure.

The introduction of a war economy, which promoted vital sectors like oil and diamonds, and gave priority to the war effort and the supply system, was not an adequate solution to our problems. Obviously, this situation has been aggravated by the imbalances and distortions resulting from the macroeconomic policy on money and credit, public finances, prices, and salaries introduced prior to the holding of the second party congress. A strong parallel market emerged and was consolidated under these conditions. Prices increased to the extent that salaries became worthless. To supplement their monthly income, people resorted to a number of expediences. Accordingly, corruption within the state apparatus and other agencies became widespread.

Contrary to what has been suggested here, I don't think that this phenomenon should either be eliminated through police and repressive measures alone, or that the culprits should be detected and sentenced by a court of law. As I see it, a profound analysis of the cause of that phenomenon should be carried out in order to introduce the necessary measures to overcome the problem. Government has already evaluated the phenomenon, and will introduce appropriate measures.

The enhancement of the salary of workers is one of the fundamental measures included in the government's plan of action. The program is designed to eliminate the aforementioned distortions and imbalances of our economy. Ultimately, the plan will increase the value of the currency and salaries, encourage production, improve the living conditions of workers, and, therefore, do away with widespread corruption.

This situation, however, should not be linked to the scandalous cases of corruption and embezzlement of public property. In this regard, the party and government can only act on the basis of information provided by the relevant investigation services. (The party and government cannot) act on the basis of rumors or speculation. Actually, rumors and speculation are often promoted by our adversaries in order to further their political ambitions. Yet those delegates who are able to gather concrete evidence about this issue should present it to the party leadership or to the attorney general and public prosecutor so that appropriate measures can be taken. It has been stated that there is no country without corruption, and that the most important thing is to introduce the appropriate measures to reduce corruption.

I would like to call the attention of the comrade delegates to some priority and fundamental tasks for the coming phase:

1. I believe that we must continue to combine all forms of struggle: political, diplomatic, and military struggle, and so on, to achieve peace.
2. Once a cease-fire agreement has been signed, we must implement it with a spirit of tolerance and national reconciliation. We must equally exercise vigilance to avoid betrayal. If there is no peace agreement, we must mobilize the people and cadres in particular to defend our gains.

3. Our party must end bureaucratism and adapt to new conditions to carry out political struggle or the so-called party contest on the basis of our program, and try to win the most seats in the People's Assembly in the general election. In this context, I believe the party must put forward candidates who will have the trust and the support of our people, be they current leaders or not. These candidates must equally be able to defend the people's aspirations and the party's stands.

4. Each party member must always have party guidance on fundamental issues. All members' actions must be within the framework of the party program and statutes. Each party member must possess the necessary information for his or her work. The party executive organs will oversee this work.

5. The government must continue to administer the country on the basis of its program of action, and it must speed up the conclusion of the country's postwar reconstruction program. In this context, the party must pay attention to the problems of peasants and the (?country-side) and the integration of demobilized troops in active civil life.

6. The party must continue to contribute with initiatives to establish peace in the country as well as to consolidate national unity and democracy.

Comrade delegates, I believe that I can, on behalf of all of you, say that our congress was a success. We have all emerged from this meeting more motivated to confront new challenges. This was possible because our contributions were timely, realistic, and rational. They corresponded to our people's expectations.

In conclusion, I would like to congratulate the comrades who have been elected to the Central Committee. It is my hope that they will zealously and successfully carry out their mission.

I would equally like to pay homage to our FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] fighters. Their bravery and firmness in the struggle enable us to view the near future with optimism. They have been able to carry out orders with sacrifice, honor, and a high sense of patriotic duty.

I would like to thank in particular our fighters in Bie and Moxico Provinces. During this crucial period of talks they have been able to neutralize UNITA's macabre plans on the battlefield. Our fighters in Luena honored this congress with a raid [preceding word in English] against the enemy which resulted in the capture of two Land Rovers full of weapons and major losses to the enemy. [applause]

Reports on Government-UNITA Clash at Luena

UNITA Said Using Toxic Gas

*MB2704135891 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1200 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] A total of 50 cases have been detected of people who have been hospitalized suffering from the effects of the

toxic substances that UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has been using in its shelling of Luena city. This was reported today by Dr. Pedro [not further identified], who added that was the result of UNITA's shelling of Luena city's Cuenha ward with B-12 guns and 81-mm mortars. Civilians have sought refuge in Cuenha ward.

Dr. Pedro said that after exploding, the shells emitted a whitish smoke which immediately made people suffer respiratory problems. People also coughed, and their eyes teared.

As in previous incidents reported in Capango and [name indistinct] wards, the present case is a continuation of the crimes that UNITA has been committing ever since it mounted the offensive against Luena city residents.

Meanwhile, the commander of the Eastern Front yesterday denounced in [words indistinct] the presence of about eight South Africans fighting alongside UNITA in its offensive against Luena city. The South Africans are acting as advisers [words indistinct] particularly artillery.

Yesterday UNITA attempted to raid the [name indistinct] military unit by using civilians as cannon fodder. The idea was to deceive FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] units and then blame our forces for killing civilians had they needed to open fire. The residents alerted our forces, however, thereby foiling UNITA's operation. Sources say that the operation [words indistinct] included a raid on Luena city.

The source added that UNITA has banned the free movement of people [words indistinct] and that UNITA vehicles loaded with war materiel continue to move from Cassamba and Munhango toward Luena. This suggests that UNITA is continuing the war against Luena residents.

At 0730 FAPLA destroyed an explosive device that UNITA had planted to kill civilians who sought refuge in Luena. At the same time, UNITA shelled [name indistinct] ward and the bridge over the [name indistinct] River, 7 km from Luena city.

This proves that UNITA opposes a cease-fire and [words indistinct] is unwilling to come to an understanding with the Angolan Government at the talks taking place in Portugal.

Doctor Discusses Symptoms

*MB2804082491 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0710 GMT 28 Apr 91*

[Text] UNITA is shelling Luena city and its outskirts with missiles containing toxic substances. Dr. Pedro Carvalho, who has been treating some of the victims at the Moxico Central Hospital, has commented on the matter.

[Begin Carvalho recording] The hospital has admitted some 180 patients because of the symptoms they displayed. The missiles that recently fell over Luena city

contain [word indistinct] chemical substances. The symptoms displayed by the victims include (?skin rashes), salivation, (?diarrhea), and [word indistinct].

Regarding the effects on heartbeat frequency and blood pressure, the victims have displayed high blood pressure. Thus, in light of this clinical data, we have concluded that those are [word indistinct] substances. [end recording]

24 UNITA Soldiers Said Killed

*MB2804085191 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
1948 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Excerpt] Luanda, 27 Apr (ANGOP)—Angolan Government forces killed 24 UNITA soldiers in Luena on 24 April. The UNITA rebels have been attacking the capital of Moxico Province since 1 April.

According to a communique issued by the FAPLA chief of General Staff, UNITA lost those men when the FAPLA forces attacked them. Our forces captured two Land Rover vehicles, one with a 106-mm cannon and the other with a 14.5-mm machine gun, and 28 automatic rifles.

Radio Angola's Luena correspondent reported on 24 April that 11 UNITA men were killed when they tried to destroy Luena Airport. [passage omitted]

Use of South Africans Charged

*MB2704063391 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0600 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] Some 300 former Koevoet [Crowbar; former South West Africa counterinsurgency unit] members are currently fighting alongside the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bandits in operations against civilians in Luena city.

A source in the office of the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] chief of general staff has disclosed that those elements are participating in the fighting by firing long-range artillery. That source also reported that Transall-160 and Hercules C-130 aircraft continue to violate Angolan airspace to carry supplies to UNITA from Pretoria and from the South African town of Upton.

Meanwhile, the Namibian press has reported that South African aircraft displaying International Red Cross and UN colors have been violating Namibian airspace and flying in the direction of Jamba under the pretext of carrying humanitarian aid.

UNITA Issues Communique

*MB2604222291 (Clandestine) KUP in English
to Southern and Central Africa 1950 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Communique issued by the office of UNITA President Jonas Savimbi in Jamba on 25 April]

[Text] [No dateline as received]—1. The president and high commander of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola hereby informs the national and international

opinion that there is no offensive in the country, less still against the towns of Luena, Bie and Malange.

A) On February 28, 1991, the command of the MPLA army, FAPLA, concentrated important forces in the towns of Luena and Bie, in order to reoccupy positions previously freed by UNITA, such as Chikala, Cangumbe, Cuemba and others.

B) In the light of this situation which could create disequilibrium on the ground, to jeopardise the peace negotiations currently underway in Portugal, the superior command of the UNITA armed forces has ordered its units to drive out MPLA units infiltrating in the liberated territory, namely the 3rd Grouping of Luena and the 6th Grouping of Bie. As for the situation of Luena, the tactical objectives of UNITA have been achieved, [words indistinct] the total paralysation of the airport and the cut-off of all possible reinforcement from outside. The UNITA armed forces are going to maintain this position until a global ceasefire between the two parties is signed.

With regard to the presence of foreigners in Luena, namely the Belgians, Vietnamese and others, UNITA is willing to discuss with the International Committee of the Red Cross for their evacuation in the safest possible conditions.

2. The UNITA delegation to the peace talks in Lisbon has precise instructions to accept the proposals of the Portuguese mediation and of the observers, the Americans and Soviets, in their general terms, depending on the debate and the clarification of certain doubts which can necessarily come up.

A) The political commission of UNITA is for the signing of a global ceasefire in Angola in May 1991 and the holding of free, fair and internationally monitored elections in the second half of 1992, before the rain season in the country.

B) The UNITA delegation to the negotiations in Lisbon has made considerable concessions on delicate problems such as security in the country during the transitional period and the formation of a single national army. We want peace and multiparty democracy now, in accordance with the desire of all the Angolan people.

Jamba, 25th April 1991.

The UNITA President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi.

* Namibe To Benefit From Namibian Investments

91AF0905B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 3 Mar 91 p 3

[Text] Here in Namibe, JORNAL DE ANGOLA has learned that a group of Namibian entrepreneurs has recently signed a document dealing with the creation of new economic ventures in this province with the local government.

The document that has been signed by the provincial commissar, Domingos Jose, and the head of the Namibian entrepreneurial delegation, M. Lenprched, was confirmed

by Raul Eduardo Paixao and Antonio Martins, local officials from the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Industry, respectively.

These ventures are aimed at the construction of factories for alcoholic beverages, tomato paste, and vegetable oil. These factories will come on line as soon as the Angolan central authorities give the green light to the project, which has already been sent to Luanda for their approval.

According to the document, the Namibians, by their own will and within the scope of the exercise of their commercial activity, want to build a factory that will produce white wine, red wine, and vinegar in the first phase, and will bottle brandy in the second phase.

A Namibian technical team will soon visit that Angolan province in order to work out a study on the current situation of the Ensul building, which is located in the outskirts of this city, and has been designated for future facilities of the factory.

However, the Namibian entrepreneurs have further proposed the construction of a factory to extract vegetable oil which will be able to satisfy more than just the food needs of the southern region of the country.

In the field of agriculture, the document calls for the immediate construction of a tomato paste factory in view of the fact that the province has great potential for producing this product, and it also provides for technical assistance for local agricultural machinery.

The document goes on to spell out that the Namibians will have to do with granting lands earmarked for growing tomatoes using modern technology, as well as the authorization to take substances from the Angolan soil to be analyzed in laboratories.

The likelihood of the construction of a sugar factory is also a possibility that the document provides for, in case the study on Angolan soil warrants production and the consequent supplying of raw materials for that purpose.

Finally, the document guarantees that the Namibian entrepreneurs will supply consumer goods—namely rice, corn, sugar, pasta, and whole milk—in the amount of \$260,000 with no guarantees of immediate payment on the part of the Angolan government.

Mauritius

* De l'Estrac On Status of RSA Trade Mission

91AF0935A Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
3 Apr 91 p 5

[Article by Jean-Max Baya: "De l'Estrac: No Official Recognition of South Africa"; first paragraph is LE MAURICIEN introduction]

[Text] The trade mission is not authorized to fly the South African [RSA] flag.

The opportunity was afforded yesterday to Minister of Foreign Affairs de l'Estrac to explain the conditions surrounding the opening of the RSA trade mission on Mauritian soil. Responding to two interpellations by deputy Arvin Boolell, De l'Estrac reiterated that the mission does not have diplomatic status and that its personnel do not enjoy the immunity and privileges generally accorded to diplomats.

With the aim of putting an end to the controversy surrounding this question, the minister took the opportunity to speak out unambiguously. The gist of his lengthy statement is that there have never been any negotiations dealing with establishing diplomatic relations between Mauritius and the RSA. The facts are, he explained, that on 31 July 1990 the government made the decision to agree, in principle, to the opening of an RSA trade mission in Mauritius. It was also decided to discuss with the South African authorities the conditions that would surround the opening of that mission. It should be noted, de l'Estrac said pointedly, that the minister of foreign affairs at that time was none other than Sir Satcam Boolell, who is today the leader of the Parliamentary opposition.

According to the minister, when the government informed the RSA authorities of its approval of the opening of a trade mission on Mauritian soil it made certain that the mission would function in a manner that would in no way be connected with the 1961 Vienna Convention concerning diplomatic relations or the 1963 Vienna Convention dealing with consular relations. De l'Estrac did say, however, that the Mauritian Government had agreed that in addition to its trade promotion activities, the mission could process and grant visas. This authorization, he explained, was granted to the trade mission in order to assist Mauritians who desire to go to the RSA, because the RSA consular service in Reunion—which had attended to the visas previously—has closed its doors. He pointed out that there are no restrictions on the freedom of movement of individuals between our two countries, and made it clear that in authorizing the trade mission to issue visas the government has not departed from its policy toward Pretoria.

De l'Estrac also clarified several other matters. He said the trade mission is not entitled to fly the RSA flag and does not enjoy any diplomatic immunity or privileges. The only privilege accorded to the officials of the mission is the exemption from customs duty of their personal effects (used household effects), office equipment and furniture, and vehicles, on condition however that all such items be shipped within six months of the arrival of the officials in Mauritius. This privilege, the minister explained, is accorded to all foreign nondiplomatic personnel serving in Mauritius.

It is because of the restrictions imposed by the Mauritian Government that the South Africans have themselves

recognized that their office is "not diplomatic or consular," de l'Estrac continued. He had hastened to obtain from the RSA authorities a clarification of the statement made by his opposite number Pik Botha to the RSA Parliament concerning the RSA missions abroad. In a note addressed to the Mauritian foreign minister, the authorities in Pretoria explain that "the South African minister of foreign affairs has not, at any time, stated that diplomatic relations exist between South Africa and Mauritius. The text of his response to a question raised in Parliament indicates clearly that the minister was using the word 'mission' in the general sense of the term. Diplomatic relations have not been established with the other countries (where there is an RSA mission) that were mentioned by the minister in his address to Parliament. In response to a question, mention was made of Port Louis and the appointment of an assistant trade representative—which clearly is not a diplomatic function—to serve there."

De l'Estrac also deplored the fact that the confusion created by the parliamentary opposition—together with certain unfounded commentaries published in the press—could harm the interests of the nation at a time when our policy toward the RSA should be administered with extreme prudence. With the aim of protecting our long-term interests, the minister continued, the government has decided to adopt—during this period of transition and until the complete dismantling of apartheid—a policy of prudence and progressive encouragement vis-a-vis the RSA Government, in the light of the positive changes brought by President de Klerk. "But we shall not establish diplomatic relations with South Africa so long as the iniquitous system of apartheid has not totally disappeared," De l'Estrac added.

The minister also strongly denounced those who endanger the national interests by antipatriotic comments that to say the least do not reflect Mauritius' true position. He hopes that such an approach is not made with the conscious intent to tarnish the image and the reputation of our country among international organizations such as the United Nations, OAU, and ACP [African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries associated with the EEC]. De l'Estrac also insisted on the necessity for Mauritius to preserve the good relations it enjoys with Southern African organizations—principally the ANC [African National Congress]—which will have a major role to play in a post-apartheid RSA government. The minister accordingly urged the members of Parliament to deal with this question prudently and fairly.

When questioned concerning the recent trip of RSA Minister of Defense Magnus Malan to Mauritius, and concerning the presence of RSA trade representative Van Wyk in the VIP lounge at Plaisance Airport to welcome the minister, De l'Estrac stated that the free movement of people between our two countries is not prohibited, and that Van Wyk's presence in the airport VIP lounge does not in any case make him a diplomat.

Mali

Troops Stage Peaceful Protest March 26 Apr

*AB2704083091 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] Following the 26 March events which resulted in the restoration of freedoms and right of expression for all the socioprofessional groups of our country, the rank and file of the Engineer Corps and the Air Force today staged a peaceful protest march concerning their material conditions and the difficulties confronting them in the barracks. The peaceful march took the men, who were not armed, to the People's Hall and to the Ministry of National Defense, where they were received by a delegation of the Transition Committee for the Salvation of the People [CTSP] led by its deputy chairman, Bakary Karambe; and a government team headed by Prime Minister Soumana Sacko and comprising cabinet members, including National Defense Minister Lieutenant Colonel Tiecoura Doumbia.

Speaking on this occasion, Minister Doumbia stated that the concerns listed by the rank and file are already being examined. He stressed that the men live in difficult conditions in the barracks. For this reason, he said, the list of grievances submitted to the prime minister contains all the concerns that he discussed during his meeting with the various army units.

Speaking next, CTSP spokesman Karambe insisted on the need to bridge communication gaps and restore dialogue at all levels because all Malians are involved in the same cause—that is, national reconstruction. For Mr. Karambe, there can be no barriers between the children of the same country. It is important for all to unite for the successful completion of the democratization process initiated by our people. The improvement of living and working conditions called for by the National Union of Mali Workers will benefit all socioprofessional groups within the limits of the state's resources.

Speaking last, Prime Minister Sacko confirmed that a list of grievances from the rank and file had already been submitted to him. He urged the troops to trust the CTSP, the government, and himself and the Malian people in their determination to build a just and equitable democratic state. The richness of this country will no longer be an orange that a restricted group squeezes dry, he said, adding that during the 22-year rule by the former regime, civilians and the rank and file suffered the same oppression under a handful of individuals.

Mr. Sacko promised that justice will be done to all through dialogue and consultations. He then informed the men of his plans to tour military garrisons. The tour, which begins next Tuesday, 30 April, will enable him to better acquaint himself with the living and working conditions of the troops. After announcing this, he then asked them to go back to the barracks. It was a happy end when, after thunderous applause, the men returned peacefully to the barracks, pleased with the opening of a dialogue.

Students, Police Clash in Bamako 27 Apr

*AB2704175691 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Text] The social climate is tense in Bamako, where violent clashes today pitted high school students against police forces. These clashes, according to some sources, resulted in injuries to several dozen people, particularly at Askia Mohammed High School. Concerning these clashes, here is a communique from the National Educational and Cultural Union, SNEC:

According to the communique, on Monday, 21 January, there was student unrest in Bamako, and a police officer, along with some policemen, ran after some students into the classrooms of Mamadou Konate School and manhandled its headmasters and teachers, who wanted to protect the children. While this offense has remained unpunished so far, according to the communique, today again some men in uniform have just committed another offense against a Malian school by violating a school compound—namely, that of Askia Mohammed. This act resulted in the hospitalization of 28 students and teachers, the destruction of the chemistry laboratory, and the burning of 53 motorbikes belonging to teachers and students. In addition, the principal was threatened with death.

The national Executive Committee of the SNEC, which crusades for the promotion of youth, education, and culture, condemns with repugnance the violation of school compounds in defiance of international rules and universal ethics. The SNEC will therefore take all the necessary steps to ensure the security of its militants, to protect its pupils and students, and to guarantee the school the consideration that it deserves. In conclusion, it invites all the members of the Bamako sections' executive committees to attend an extraordinary meeting at the labor exchange on Monday, 29 April at 1000.

Meanwhile, pupils and students, members of the Association of Pupils and Students of Mali, AEEM, have come to the radio station to talk about these disturbances. Let us listen to Boubacar Kone, the general secretary of the AEEM section of the Senior Teachers' College, explaining this morning's events to reporter Cheikh Amara Toure:

[Begin recording] [Kone] This morning, when our comrades at Askia Mohammed High School were attending courses, they heard through the doors, the Republican Guards and gendarmerie as well as the policemen shouting and marching. Worried about this situation, our comrades came out and asked what was happening. They were then told that the military was marching, and some of them protested by shouting, among other things, 'Down With the Military' before starting to throw stones at them. In the meantime, the military got angry and walked into the school and beat up the administrative staff, as well as young girls and boys, even some AEEM Executive Committee leaders. The military burned 50 motorbikes of all makes—that is, motorbikes belonging to students. They ransacked everything, seriously injured even the general secretary of the (?ENI) [expansion unknown] who went to get explanations about why they were beating up the

students. So, we immediately sent a team there to help the comrades out, and we protested against the barbaric repression by the police, Republican Guard, and gendarmerie in support of our comrades at Askia Mohammed High School who were once again victims of repression.

[Toure] According to you, why did the policemen attack the students this morning?

[Kone] According to the information we gathered—and it was furthermore obvious—during the January and March events, the policemen, Republican Guards, and gendarmes were those who killed the children. Yesterday, the military staged a march—I mean those military who were blamed for the killings and with whom we had first planned marches of support. It is true that in the meantime we thought that the military were those who shot at us, but it was not true. Those who actually shot were the policemen. They are murderers of children. The soldiers came out yesterday and called for justice. They want those corrupt officers who ordered the killings and others to be tried. We, for our part, demand the immediate setting up of an independent commission of inquiry to find out those responsible for these killings so that sound justice can prevail. [end recording]

Further on Bamako Violence

AB2704192091 Paris AFP in English 1459 GMT
27 Apr 91

[Text] Bamako, April 27 (AFP)—Police brutally attacked schoolchildren here Saturday they accused of trying to sabotage a strike by the police force in Mali's capital, witnesses said. Medical sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that at least 47 people were hurt. The trouble began when pupils from the Askia Mohammed school tried to replace policemen on traffic duty as police officers planned to open their strike with a protest march.

Furious that the pupils intended to undermine their protest, police officers went to the school and set the youngsters' scooters ablaze before assaulting the pupils. There was shooting on the premises, witnesses said.

Groups of young people then ran to police stations to burn them down. They set fire to the central police headquarters and vehicles parked near to the ministry of education.

"You should have demonstrated under the Traore regime and not now!" yelled pupils in a reference to the military ruler, General Moussa Traore, toppled on March 26 after some 22 (eds: correct) years of autocratic government.

Staff at the main Gabriel Toure hospital said they had seen 47 injured people, mainly pupils and teachers from the school. The capital of the Sahel nation had gone wild, witnesses said. Pupils were joined on the streets later Saturday by students calling for the arrest of policemen who fired on the protest demonstrations that last month led to the downfall of president Traore.

They notably wanted the arrest of Major Niame Keita, head of the mobile security force which detained students and children during the protests in March.

The demonstrators shouted that they would burn alive any uniformed officer that crossed their path. No officers were to be seen in the early afternoon and the young people were masters of the capital's streets and directing traffic at crossroads.

Ambulance crews told AFP that the security forces had prevented them from getting some of the injured to hospital.

Bamako's youth also turned out on Friday to address complaints at army engineers and air force troops marching through the capital.

The soldiers went to the ministry of defence and the headquarters of the Transitional Committee for the Salvation of the People (CTSP) formed after Gen. Traore was ousted in a coup, shouting slogans against "corrupt officers."

The military protest was defused without violence when several CTSP officials came out to address the troops, who were unarmed.

Both ordinary soldiers and the civilian population had been victims of the repression of the Traore years, Prime Minister Soumana Sacko told them.

Mr. Sacko was flanked Friday by Defence Minister Tiecoura Doumbia and the CTSP vice-president, Bakary Karambe, who heads the country's single trade union federation.

The CTSP interim government of 17 civilians and five soldiers was set up by the acting head of state, Lieutenant-Colonel Amodou Toumani Toure, Mali's paratroop chief, who threw out Gen. Traore after the violent repression of protest.

The new team has promised free presidential, parliamentary and local elections by January 1, 1992.

Bamako Supports New Authorities

AB2804202791 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Excerpts] Inhabitants of Bamako today held a march through the town to express support for the new authorities—namely, the Transition Committee of the Salvation of the People [CTSP] and the government. The march was initiated by the democratic associations and organizations and brought together more than 8,000 people. The march started from the Martyrs Square and proceeded through Niarela Cemetery and along Avenue 44, River Avenue, and Avenue of the Nation, and ended at the People's Hall, where the marchers were welcomed by CTSP members and the prime minister. The march was held with order and discipline. [passage omitted]

After observing a minute of silence in memory of the martyrs, the marchers presented an address read by Cheick Oumar Sissoko. After recalling the setting up of the CTSP, the appointment of a prime minister, and the formation of the Cabinet as actions which all the associations supported, the marchers reiterated their support for the CTSP

and the transitional government. However, their support was subject to some demands which gradually must guarantee the (smooth implementation) of the democratic process. [passage omitted]

Replying to the marchers, the CTSP chairman, Lieutenant Colonel Amadou Toumani Toure, expressed his emotion in light of this confidence they placed in him and reassured them all light will be shed on all the issues of concern they raised:

[Begin Toure recording] The victory which our people had to win through the shedding of their blood, through the blood of our martyrs, through the blood of our children, of our wives [words indistinct]. I am prepared to lay down my life to ensure this democracy. It is an irreversible step, even without Amadou and without the Army. [crowd shouts approval] Henceforth, I call on you to be vigilant in the face of everyone. We must be vigilant in the face of corrupt civil servants and dishonest officers. [crowd shouts approval] I pledge to you that we are going to track them down and to discover them. [end recording]

After these assurances given by the CTSP chairman, the crowd dispersed calmly.

Sacko Views 26-27 Apr Unrest

*AB2804190291 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 28 Apr 91*

[Excerpts] Calm has returned to the district of Bamako after clashes yesterday between high school students and policemen. These clashes resulted in 28 students and (?150) soldiers being hospitalized, and 53 motorbikes of all types and school laboratories being set ablaze. Also, the 1st, 2d, 3d, 5th, and 6th District police stations were ransacked. Only the 4th District police station at Badalabougou was spared. In a message to the nation yesterday, the prime minister, Soumana Sacko, made an appeal and explained in particular the reason for the march by the policemen:

[Begin Sacko recording] Soldiers, who are unhappy with their precarious living conditions and [words indistinct] with hierarchical relations within the Army and the security forces, simply wanted to present their grievances directly to the prime minister himself, as a mark of their confidence in him. It is true that the path chosen by these recruits remains unacceptable in light of Army and state regulations. They intended to hold a peaceful march, however, and did not have any intention at all of opposing the new political order that resulted from the great common history of 26 March. When I personally visited some garrisons in the capital, it was confirmed to me, contrary to widely held opinion, that the junior officers and in particular the recruits and security forces, also went through the same the inhuman misery as their civilian brothers.

It is unfortunate that the climate of mistrust and mutual suspicion nurtured by the former regime has led to deplorable incidents because, in really [words indistinct] a logical

convergence of interests between all the civilians and the soldiers of our dear fatherland. [passage omitted]

The best way of remaining faithful to the memory of our martyrs, the best way not to betray the people, is to preserve our future. We are going to build this future together, hand in hand, with respect for the rule of law based on multiparty democracy and an economic framework where private initiative and social justice contribute to individual and collective well-being. Respect for the rule of law implies citizens' respect for public authority. It also implies and calls on everyone to demonstrate civic-mindedness. One of the major missions of the state is to ensure public order and the security of people and property. Therefore, it is important for the police forces, the gendarmerie, and the Republican Guards to play an indispensable role in maintaining peace and tranquillity for all by day as well as by night. It is important for heads of administrative districts and the tax collection services to accomplish their mission in the very interests of the urban and rural populations.

Finally, it is important that the Army and the security forces return to the noble republican traditions under which the military authority submits itself to the legally and legitimately constituted political authority. This program for building a state where the rule of law is respected will be further polished during the forthcoming national conference. This program demands, in particular during this transitional period, that all the democratic forces—civilians or soldiers—should live together. It is evident that the Transition Committee for the Salvation of the People [CTSP] and the government will assume their responsibilities, all their responsibilities, in the face of all those—civilians as well as soldiers—whose responsibility has been legally established in the wave of repressions of January and March, as well as in the management of the former ruling team. We must carry out this task with diligence and without hurrying.

It is also evident that the CTSP and the government will try, as much as possible and in spite of the enormous current economic and financial difficulties, to satisfy the legitimate demands of the various social strata, both civilian and military. There will be no room, however, for extravagant promises and demagoguery. There is no credible and viable alternative to rigor and openness in managing the country's finances. There is also no alternative to economic reorganization in order to put our country back on the path of growth and development. We must first examine the earnings that are to be shared before we share them equitably, on the basis of a job in which one is honest, creative, and justly paid. [end recording]

Nigeria

Babangida on Katsina, Bauchi Disturbances

*AB2604191691 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida has made his first public comment on the disturbances in Katsina and

Bauchi States. The president expressed dismay over the disturbances and declared that government will deal ruthlessly with the perpetrators of such acts, in the interest of continued peace. General Babangida was answering questions from newsmen in Uyo before leaving for Lagos at the end of his visit to Akwa Ibom State:

[Begin Babangida recording] (?People) of any society that constitute themselves into a nuisance, the government, (?whether) at the federal, state, or even at the local government level, has the responsibility to the people [words indistinct] is to deal appropriately with people who perpetrate [words indistinct] and this is exactly what [words indistinct] and this is what exactly the governor in Bauchi State is going to (?do). [end recording]

President Babangida also spoke on the responsibility of the public in such a situation:

[Begin Babangida recording] The public have a responsibility here to play. In Katsina, for example, what the public had done has been [words indistinct]. The public, the citizens, were peace-loving, and we supported (?them) wholeheartedly against anybody who wants to disturb the peace of the greater number of the society. So, I think the government and the public...[changes thought] I think, we should be able to [words indistinct] out. Why should people impose their wishes or beliefs, or ideologies on others? [Words indistinct] I know for example, that religious influence does not allow you to force (?any) religion on to people [words indistinct] you have to persuade them. [Words indistinct] whatever they do, anybody who does it, is not doing it according to the teachings of Islam, for example. It does not say that you should force people to do anything on [words indistinct] So, the public has a responsibility to make sure that these people do not constitute themselves into a nuisance to the society, and the government will definitely deal very ruthlessly with the perpetrators. [end recording]

Civil Servants Ordered To Work

*AB2604115891 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] The Bauchi State Government has directed civil servants to report for work immediately. The government also advised those who fled their homes in the wake of the religious riots to return home. In a radio and television broadcast, Governor Abu Ali said that the situation was now under control and implored people to go about their normal businesses. The government, he said, would compensate those whose houses were either destroyed or burned during the crisis, while people who have been rendered homeless would be rehabilitated. Colonel Ali warned that anyone caught causing a breach of the peace would be severely dealt with. He reminded the people that the ban on illegal assemblies and processions was still in force.

Meanwhile, the curfew imposed on the Bauchi metropolis from seven o'clock in the evening [1800 GMT] to six in the morning [0500 GMT] has been extended to other local government areas. A Radio Nigeria sports correspondent

in the Bauchi state capital reports that several people were arrested while attempting to disrupt the activities of the Ninth National Sports Festival. According to him, security at all the venues and camps of all the athletes have been intensified while armed escorts has been assigned to vehicles conveying the athletes.

Victim Toll Higher Than Reported

*AB2604171691 London BBC World Service
in English 1500 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[From the "World News" program]

[Text] In West Africa, reports from the Nigerian State of Bauchi indicate that many Muslims as well as Christians have been killed in six days of unrest. Nigerian journalists say they have attended the funerals of dozens of Muslim victims. David Bamford tells us from Lagos that many of are thought to have died during clashes with Nigerian security forces on Wednesday [24 April].

[Begin recording] Reports that more than 120 Muslims are being buried in Bauchi State indicate that the number of people killed is considerably higher than first thought. The Christian Association of Nigeria has already estimated that nearly 100 Christians had been killed. The worst violence that Bauchi has seen in a decade came in three separate stages spread over the week.

Last Sunday, [21 April], a local argument in the small town of Tafawa Balewa blew up into a battle along ethnic and religious lines. By Monday, word had reached the Bauchi state capital that Christians had killed Muslims in Tafawa Balewa, and this became the cue for an all-out Muslim attack lasting two days on Christian churches and buildings. By Wednesday, Nigerian security forces had moved into Bauchi and then began the third stage, involving running battles between troops and Muslim radicals.

As well as the 120 Muslims buried today in Bauchi town, people traveling along the Jos to Bauchi Road yesterday said they saw more bodies lying by the roadside. Latest reports describe the situation in the state as calm but tense. Troops and tanks continue to patrol the streets, and the night curfew and ban on public gatherings remain in effect. Thousands of mainly Christian refugees displaced or made homeless by the rioting are reported to be having difficulty finding food.

The state governor, Colonel Abu Ali, has made a broadcast promising to do all he can to help them and saying that all those who had lost their property would be rehoused. [end recording]

Death Toll Said Nearing 200

*AB2604195891 Paris AFP in English 1949 GMT
26 Apr 91*

[Excerpt] Bauchi, Nigeria, April 26 (AFP)—Close to 200 people have died in outbreaks of sectarian violence (?here) and in other parts of Bauchi state in north-east Nigeria, according to eyewitness accounts gathered here Friday.

President Ibrahim Babangida vowed at a news conference broadcast on national radio that the government "would deal ruthlessly" with people who threatened public order.

Meanwhile, a government official who witnessed the violence in Bauchi told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE he saw rioters decapitate five Christians near his home. The man, a security service official and himself a Christian, also said some of the bodies buried Wednesday and Thursday had no heads. He said he escaped the rioting by fleeing to his office with his wife and five children.

Although no official toll was published, the number of dead from clashes between Muslims and Christians was nearing 200, according to eyewitness accounts gathered by AFP. Between 40 and 50 of the dead were said to be Christians. [passage omitted]

Batch of 500 Soldiers Airlifted to Sierra Leone

*AB2904112291 Lagos International Service
in English 1030 GMT 29 Apr 91*

[From the press review]

[Text] THE DEMOCRAT says the airlifting of another batch of 500 Nigerian soldiers to Sierra Leone to assist President Joseph Momoh expel from his country the Charles Taylor-backed Sierra Leonean dissidents began yesterday. The paper notes that Nigeria already has 700 troops in that country.

General Sanni Abacha had, during a recent visit, promised President Momoh that Nigeria would help protect the territorial integrity of Sierra Leone. THE DEMOCRAT reports that the soldiers are from the 19th Battalion of the Nigerian Army. Guinea already has about 300 troops in Sierra Leone and Ghana had also pledged to send men and equipment.

Sierra Leone

Rebels Gaining Ground; Minister Seeks UK Help

*AB2604202091 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The rebellion in Sierra Leone seems to be hotting up and spreading. It has been going on since last month. The government says the rebels have been sent across the border by Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor; he denies it, and a Corporal Sankho says it is a homegrown rebellion led by him. Whatever, there are reports that the rebels are now moving south, and the civilians are fleeing the advance. From Freetown, Christo Johnson telexed this report:

[Begin Johnson recording] According to Sierra Leoneans running away from the rebel attacks, rebels are now advancing on Bo Town. Bo is the regional capital of the south, about 150 miles from Freetown, and Sierra Leone's

second city. Eyewitness reports said that the rebels have moved on Bo from Pujehun, which was recently invaded by the rebels.

According to a driver, Abdul Rahman Kamara, who arrived from Bo this morning, Bo Town is now empty. He told me that thousands of residents were now escaping as best they could. He said that he himself had taken away 100 people in his tipper lorry. A senior manager from the Drivers Trucking Company told me that rebels had overrun a Lebanese-owned diamond and gold-mining company in the Pujehun District and were now even mining themselves.

Sierra Leoneans in the capital here are expressing concern about the rapid progress that the rebels seem to be making. One Sierra Leonean I spoke to here today told me that people were worried about the conflicting reports, but he said most Sierra Leoneans are ready to die to defend their country. [end recording]

So the Sierra Leone Government is certainly having problems containing the rebellion. President Momoh has already been getting help from Guinea and Nigeria; America is promising assistance, and help is also being sought from Britain. Sierra Leone's foreign minister, Abdul Karim Koroma, is in London, and Robin White asked him if it was not embarrassing to ask for outside help.

[Begin recording] [Koroma] It is not embarrassing. I believe that when one is faced with a crisis of this nature, which has turned out to be a lot more serious than many people originally thought, it is not embarrassing to ask for external assistance to put an end to this incursion, this invasion.

[White] Are you happy with the assistance that has come, in fact?

[Koroma] We are satisfied but we would wish for a lot more assistance from other friends of ours.

[White] From who in particular?

[Koroma] The United States, the United Kingdom, and sympathetic understanding from our friends in the region. We have already got assistance from the Guineans and the Nigerians, but others seem to lack the kind of sensitivity and sympathy that is necessary to be demonstrated as a regional neighbor.

[White] The Americans have, I think, promised to send you trucks in the near future. Are you a bit unhappy with Britain? Are you... [changes thought] They have done nothing or have they done something?

[Koroma] The British are having certain considerations. I was in the Foreign Office yesterday. They are seriously, according to them, they are seriously thinking about the situation and [changes thought] But we are not very satisfied and I must say slightly disappointed that the response to our request from the British has not been as prompt as one would have wanted it in view of our

long-standing relationship and in view of what we can classify as our very close relations.

[White] What would you specifically like the British Government to do?

[Koroma] We would like the British Government to send military assistance of a lethal nature. Lethal as well as nonlethal, we would want them to do that.

[White] What do you mean, lethal; specifically, what would you like?

[Koroma] Things that shoot mercilessly, things that are weapons of great potency. And our army is small but well-trained. We lack the capability in terms of lethal power. And this is what we want the British to assist us in.

[White] Would you like British soldiers also to go out there and help you?

[Koroma] No, we do not want British soldiers there. We can... [changes thought] We believe we will be able to cope, with the assistance of our friends the Nigerians and the Guineans, but we want supplies, equipment.

[White] When the trouble started, President Momoh blamed it all squarely on Charles Taylor's rebels in neighboring Liberia. But are you beginning to accept that there might be a Sierra Leonean element in this, that there are Sierra Leoneans fighting you in Sierra Leone?

[Koroma] Now, the only evidence clearly points out to the signature of Charles Taylor and his NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] (?presence) in this action. We have known for a long time that a sprinkling of Sierra Leoneans have been trained abroad and that they have been trained in Liberia. But these are of very insignificant numbers.

[White] What do you think Charles Taylor would have to gain by this?

[Koroma] He will have to tell us what he has to gain.

[White] He says he has nothing to gain at all; he has got enough troubles on his plate in Liberia.

[Koroma] It is a wonder therefore that he will extend his war across our border into Sierra Leone. We believe he is acting as a surrogate for whomever he is acting for. We believe he is now a hostage to the situation he has created. He wants to deliver on promises he has made to... [Koroma hesitates] people and to everybody around. And we wonder what he has to gain—he has decimated his population, destroyed his country, and bringing his... [changes thought] He has been stalemated in Liberia, and bringing the war across to Sierra Leone is a matter we cannot fathom.

[White] Do you think, though, that he may have touched some kind of nerve in Sierra Leone, among Sierra Leoneans who feel very disenchanting with the government?

[Koroma] He has not. In our reckoning, he has not. And we are saying so because of the response of the Sierra Leonean people.

[White] But you have not managed to get rid of these rebels. I mean, it has gone on now for several weeks, and they are still there. They must be getting support from somebody...

[Koroma, interrupting] Yes, they have been getting support from somebody, from external sources.

[White] They must be getting some support from Sierra Leoneans, otherwise they would have been driven off by now.

[Koroma] I absolutely deny that. They are not getting any support, substantive or substantial enough to be able to sustain this threat, this incursion. He has supplies of weapons. He has deployed some very, very lethal equipment. He has brought in the mass of the Liberian youth whom he has pressured into a fighting force; he has thrown them into battle irrespective of the casualties they suffer. And Sierra Leoneans have turned out in the thousands and thousands, rallying in support of the president, in support against Charles Taylor's action.

[White] They are rallying in Freetown. But are they rallying in areas along the Liberian border?

[Koroma] Do they have the opportunity to rally, Robin? There is a threat there to the very security of the people, to the security of the towns and villages. They would not have time to rally. [end recording]

Chief of Staff Tarawalli Visits Front

*AB2604215691 Freetown Domestic Service
in English 2000 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] Force Commander Major General M.S. Tarawalli has urged troops of the Sierra Leone military forces and Guinean troops to continue to show courage, steadfastness, and commitment in their assignment of protecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sierra Leone. Maj. Gen. Tarawalli was addressing troops of the combined forces at Daru yesterday during a one-day routine visit to Sierra Leone's conflict area on the eastern border. He extended his thanks and appreciation to the troops for what he described as their tremendous sacrifice in containing the rebel invasion. The force commander expressed optimism that with the assistance now being received from friendly countries, coupled with our forces' collective will, the unwarranted aggression of Charles Taylor's rebel forces will soon be terminated, and all flushed out of the country. Maj. Gen. Tarawalli further appealed to the troops to be courteous and hospitable to our people in their area of operation.

Commenting on persistent rumors that rebels were approaching Bo Town, a Ministry of Defense spokesman completely denied having any rebel incursions in or around Bo Town. He described that piece of false information as the product of rumormongers bent on creating panic among peaceful citizens. The Ministry of Defense spokesman intimated that following confirmed reports about rebel incursions in Pujehun District and (Jimibabor), heavy reinforcements of Sierra Leone military forces

troops have been rushed into the affected areas. The spokesman expressed confidence that the mop-up action of all rebels there will soon be completed.

Meanwhile, a consignment of sugar was yesterday presented to the deputy commander, Brigadier (Travolta) by the general manager of the Magbant Sugar Complex, Mr. (Sli Hu Shreng,) and his deputy, Mr. J.K. Fonah. The donation is the contribution by the management and staff of the company to the efforts of the Armed Forces in repelling the rebel incursions into this country, SLENA reported.

Rebels in Zimi Said Engaged in Mining Operations

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[Text] Freetown, April 26 (AFP)—Security forces are holding about 125 suspected Liberian rebels here, many of whom were captured in battles this week in villages near Sierra Leone's eastern border, military sources said Friday. Running battles were taking place in villages just south of Pujehun, a key town some 200 kilometers (120 miles) east of here, the sources said. Diplomatic sources said only a handful of those arrested so far, on Tuesday [23 April] and Wednesday, are Sierra Leone dissidents.

Meanwhile, a Brazilian mining engineer who escaped to Freetown on Friday said rebels holding the southeastern border town of Zimi were undertaking extensive gold and diamond mining operations. Pedro de Costa of the Lebanese-owned Makpele Mining Company said he was able to escape by drugging some of his captors and later walking about 50 kilometers (30 miles) to Potoru where he met government troops. The mining company, located a few kilometers (miles) from the Mano River Union Bridge was seized by guerrillas three weeks ago. He said the rebels from Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) were "very reinforced" in Zimi and were using his company's communications system as a radio line with Mr. Taylor's headquarters at Gbarnga in northern Liberia.

Mr. Taylor, who launched Liberia's December 1989 rebellion which toppled the late president Samuel Doe, has denied any involvement in the border fighting. He insists Sierra Leone dissidents are responsible for the clashes starting March 23. Prior to the border incursion, about half of Sierra Leone's 125,000 Liberian refugees had been staying at Zimi.

Sierra Leone's Armed Forces Chief Mohamed Tarawalli returned to the capital Friday after two days visiting the front to assess the situation. He also met with a Guinean troops contingent at the military base at Daru, which sources said has been under constant rebel threat.

Western diplomatic sources in the Ivory Coast economic capital Abidjan told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on Friday that the 270 Guinean soldiers at Daru had so far refused to obey orders from Sierra Leone commanders and had no desire to engage in combat. The sources said there was a serious lack of communications equipment for the Sierra Leone and Guinean troops, and that efforts to beat

back the 1,000-strong rebel force had been uncoordinated and ineffective. They said there were even divisions between regular Sierra Leone troops and paramilitary forces fighting the eastern border regions.

About 250 Nigerian troops have arrived in Freetown while many others are expected, the sources said, adding that it was not clear if the Nigerian contingent would remain in the capital to ensure the protection of President Joseph Momoh or go to the front. Ghana was also to send men and equipment soon, they said, following visits to Freetown this week by deputy Foreign Minister Mohamed Ibn Chambas and military officers.

Liberian rebel leader Prince Johnson, a rival of Mr. Taylor, has reportedly given some military equipment and offered to send about 60 men, while former Liberian government troops in refugee camps in Sierra Leone have volunteered to take up arms against Mr. Taylor, the sources said. They said rebels had announced plans to attack the main town of Bo at the weekend in an apparent bid to create panic and drive the residents north to Guinea or west to the capital.

Nigerian Minister Urges Unity in Ending Conflict

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[Text] The Nigerian defense minister, General Sani Abacha, has called on Sierra Leoneans to rally around their government and give it maximum support to end the rebel incursion into Sierra Leone. Speaking at a press conference in Freetown today, shortly before leaving for Guinea, General Abacha said that such a gesture would ensure the restoration of peace and stability internally. He said what is happening in Sierra Leone cannot be divorced from what has been happening in Liberia. Gen. Abacha described his visit as a goodwill mission aimed at having a fair and realistic assessment of the current rebel offensive in the border areas of Sierra Leone.

The defense minister said that the West African peace-keeping force ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] is insisting to ensure that the lives and property of innocent citizens in Liberia, as well as those of noncitizens are protected. Gen. Abacha said that in the past, it was a known fact that Burkina Faso was supporting Charles Taylor in various forms. If at this stage, with the vigorous pursuit of a political solution, Burkina Faso will accept or volunteer to send forces to join ECOMOG, [words indistinct] something positive, he added. The minister said the development in Sierra Leone threatens the internal security of the country itself but he added: I would not think it is a situation which cannot be handled.

Commenting on the need to eliminate Charles Taylor's menace by destroying his war machine, Gen. Abacha said such move could be an ultimate option but that ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] would rather prefer to exhaust all political and diplomatic options opened to them. [Words indistinct] moved the vote of thanks.

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